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Caledonian Sketches,

OR A

TOUR THROUGH SCOTLAND

IN 1807:

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED

AN EXPLANATORY ADDRESS TO THE PUBLIC,

UPON A RECENT TRIAL.

BY SIR JOHN CARR.

——— Est propria gloria Scotis,
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
Polliciti servare fidem, sanctumque vereri
Numen amicitiæ.———

BUCHANAN.

" With gold and gems if Chilian mountains glow,
If bleak and barren Scotia's hills arise—
There plague and poison, lust and rapine, grow ;
Here peaceful are the vales, and pure the skies,
And freedom fires the soul, and sparkles in the eyes."

BEATTIE.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR MATHEWS AND LEIGH, IN THE STRAND,

BY W. CLOWES, NORTHUMBERLAND-COURT.

1809.

DA
865
C31

TO

VISCOUNT VALENTIA, M. P.

F.R.S. F.A.S. F.L.S. P.R.I.

MEMBER OF

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL, AND THE LITERARY SOCIETY OF BOMBAY;

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE AFRICAN SOCIETY;

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE LITERARY FUND; &c. &c. &c.

MY LORD,

To you, who have devoted so many years in the ardent and successful pursuit of knowledge in distant regions, the treasures of which you are about to pour into the lap of your country, I beg to have the honour of dedicating the following pages.

Although, in extent and variety of research, as well as in the acquirements, toil, and enterprise necessary for its success, your Lordship has rarely been equalled, you have not resembled those travellers, who, to a perfect acquaintance with the laws, customs, and manners of other countries, unite an almost entire ignorance of their own.

With the local, moral, and political character of the three divisions of the British empire, I know your Lordship is intimately conversant, and I hope that the representation which I have attempted of the natives and the scenery of the northern branch of it will meet with your approbation.

I have the honour to remain,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient servant,

JOHN CARR.

2, Garden-court, Temple,
Dec. 20, 1808.

EXPLANATORY ADDRESS

TO

THE PUBLIC.

IN laying before the Public another literary production, I think it due, in point of propriety and respect, to advert to a circumstance which has lately brought my name before it, more especially as that circumstance is distantly connected with the present publication. I refer to an action which I brought against the publishers of a supposed libellous caricature print, and its explanation, of a personal and offensive nature, in consequence of which I have been charged by certain persons with having attempted a violence to the liberty of the press.

Those whose hostility I have increased by that measure have distorted the ground of that action: perhaps no object ever was more grossly and actively misrepresented. From the dominion which my adversaries had and have over some of the public prints, they had considerable means of adding to the injustice which they had before attempted to exercise.

If the matter merely related to myself, from my respect to the Public it should drop into oblivion; but it is not my cause, so much as that of literature and its privileges, that is at stake. Truth has been not a little injured; but yet, notwithstanding so many fractures, I hope to set every shattered bone, and restore her to her former symmetry. A loud outcry has been raised against me, in consequence of such gross misrepresentation. The storm roared long and loud: I have waited for a calmer moment to reply.

In 1806 I submitted to the Public the result of my observations made in the year preceding on the sister island, under the title of "The Stranger in Ireland, or a Tour in the Southern and Western Parts of that Country." In this work I avoided those topics upon which the public mind has been fearfully divided: I endeavoured to assist in effacing prejudices, and in making my readers of this country better acquainted with, and consequently more disposed to love and esteem, our brethren in Ireland. The Public received my endeavours with such favour, that, expensive as the work was, very nearly fifteen hundred copies of it have been sold. It has also had a large circulation upon the Continent and in America, where it has passed through several editions. Some highly respectable writers upon matters connected with Ireland have honoured me by considering it as a work of authority, and by quoting from it. It moreover obtained for me the friendship and esteem of many distinguished and honourable persons, both here and in Ireland,

as well Protestants as Catholics. I hope I may be permitted to state thus much, without an imputation of self-complacency.

In 1807 a work was published, the object of whose title was, to make it appear, for the purpose of injuring me in the public opinion, that my Journal of this long and rather laborious Tour had been contained in a few pencil hints, or memorandums. The body of the book was filled with fragments of distant and discordant sentences extracted from my work, absurdly jumbled together, and interspersed with falsehood and the vilest perversions, which were presented to the Public under the imposing mask of fair *quotation*.

Had this attack been announced as a travesty, the Public would have regarded it as a burlesque, and I should have been as much disposed as any one to have smiled at what humour it might have possessed. Indeed I should have deemed it, in some measure, an honour; for, as the nature

of travesty is laughable deformity, the original must at least possess some symmetry, before it could be twisted into deformity. Nay, I should have felt myself flattered to have been placed in the same line of attack in which many illustrious literary characters have been assailed, although immeasurably removed from them in literary reputation. I should also have reflected that the Public would not be interested in the travesty of an unknown author. But many, who have never read the Tour in Ireland, have considered the quotations as authentic, and the comment as fair and candid. I am placed before a mirror that distorts, and the mirror is thought to represent me faithfully. Submitting to this malignant and mischievous attack as one of the pains and penalties attached to authorship, I took no notice of the first edition.

In the beginning of the following year, however, a second edition appeared, considerably enlarged, with several caricature prints. It was advertised,

in a long and striking manner, in the London, and most of the provincial, newspapers; and, lest the Public should mistake the object, my name, at full length, was introduced; and the publishers, by means unusual in the trade with regard to works of such a nature, circulated an immense number of copies of it.

The frontispiece of this publication, in most of its parts, and the explanation annexed to it, attempted personally to degrade me in a point of view that had no reference to my travels in Ireland. Legal advisers assured me that both were libellous; and it would be impossible, I believe, even for my adversaries, to deny that their own Counsel partook of the same opinion; I was therefore induced to look for redress to the law. To prove that these caricature prints ought not to be considered as fair critical elucidation, I beg leave to call the attention of the reader to another of them. In my work I have mentioned, that the cruel custom of yoking the

plough to the tail of the drawing horse, which once existed in the uncivilized parts of Ireland, has for some time past been discontinued; yet, in this print, I am represented in the attitude of making a drawing of this barbarous usage; and, if such print be admitted to be fair criticism, I am made by the artist's pencil to assert that the custom still endures. In fact I am assured that I have already incurred the displeasure of some of the Irish, who have not perused my work, and who have been misled by this print, for having, as they thought, in this instance thrown an odium upon the character of their peasantry. To return to the action, the frontispiece caricature, and the explanation, constituted the sole ground of my legal complaint. My declaration, or, as it is legally defined, a shewing in writing of the cause of complaint, embraced no other; and my proofs, as the law requires they should be, were confined to the innuendos contained in the declaration. Could I have conceived, or had I been legally advised, that the Court,

after my declaration had been so shaped, would have admitted of evidence to shew that the body of the obnoxious work was unfair criticism, I could have produced many distinguished literary men to have proved it to have been so. When the cause came on, the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, who presided, maintained that a personal caricature of an author may be considered as fair criticism, as far as he is connected with his work, and impressed such his opinion upon the minds of the jury, who gave their verdict accordingly. My adversaries immediately announced the event as a victory obtained over an enemy to the press, and a person who wished to arm justice against criticism. I hope I shall not be considered as deviating from that respect which is due to Lord Ellenborough as a dignified magistrate, a scholar, and a gentleman, and from that reverence which ought to attend upon judicial opinion, if I submit a few further observations.

So far from aiming at the freedom of the press,

I thought I was making a struggle on behalf of its liberty, as well as its dignity, by an attempt to prevent both from being contaminated and brought into discredit by the low and base alliance of caricature and buffoonery; and that I never did wish to interfere with the liberty of the press is plain from my not attacking the first work, which was equally as unjust as the second.

The most dignified satirists, such as Dryden, Boileau, Pope, Swift, and Young, never thought of lashing a man by pictures: that task they left to inferior artists; they confined themselves to their pens alone. If there was any press that I wished to obtain a victory over, it was not the literary press, but the caricature press. Plain fact will demonstrate that I could have no other intention. Had Lord Ellenborough thought the caricature and explanation were libellous, and had I, in consequence, obtained a verdict, the letter-press part of the work, without the caricatures, might have continued to be sold with impunity.

With regard to the liberty of the press, its abuses have not made me cease to be enamoured with its real utility. The censure of assailants, such as I have had, can no more detach me from revering the press, than the turpitude of a wicked priest can shake my veneration for religion. The liberty of the press is the boast of every honest Englishman, and the Judge who sacrifices something of justice in its defence is more entitled to his admiration than his censure; or, if he awaken censure, he will find it but reluctantly roused, and easily appeased.

To fair legitimate criticism I have, upon the whole, much reason to be grateful. Fortunately for the literature of Great Britain, in no country in the world is criticism so widely disseminated by means of the different reviews. In these, my works, upon the whole, have been favourably dealt with; and even where my feelings, as an author, may have been mortified, I should be more inclined to admit the liability to error in

myself, than to suppose that a degree of censure had been extended to me, which, it was conceived, I did not deserve. I hope I have shewn enough to establish that I was not so thoughtless as to appeal to the laws against criticism. No lawyer, if he valued his character, would either have advised me to it, or ventured to open his lips in a court of justice in support of such an appeal. Literary reputation is at best but fruit half-filled with wasps; those who but attempt to gather it must expect to be stung.

For my own part, I have ever considered criticism as the great palladium of literature. It is a guard between bad taste and the Public. My maxim has ever been that of Gresset, "s'honorer des Critiques, et tacher de faire mieux." But to be assailed by the malignant combination, which was proved, and uncontroverted, upon the hearing of my cause---to be assailed by weapons unknown in that "bright armoury" from which the shafts of real wit and satire have hitherto been levelled at mankind---will,

I trust, be considered as some apology for the imprudence with which I have been charged, of seeking protection in a court of justice.

Satisfied with the happiness of moving in an honourable society, and I trust of enjoying its esteem, taking no share, and acting no part, in those scenes which usually excite the ridicule of the caricaturist, I did hope that my venturing to lay before the Public remarks made, and opinions formed, during my different tours, without seeking to embellish and enliven them with the surreptitious ornament of imagination, would not have roused him from his den to waylay me in my peaceful path. My expectations have been disappointed, and I must confess I had not philosophy enough to witness with indifference the almost unexampled activity which was displayed in holding me up to the Public in every newspaper, and in the window of every petty retailer of literature, as an object unworthy of the respectable opinion with which it has hitherto honoured my humble literary labours.

I have only one observation more to make, which I owe in justice to myself, and my late publisher, Sir Richard Phillips, who has been accused of having, from objects of personal feeling, prompted me to bring the action to which I have adverted. I can most solemnly declare that he never excited me to such a measure. I was solely guided by my own feelings, and the opinion of my legal advisers; and I trust that my character is too well known, and that I hold too respectable a situation in society, to encourage an expectation that I could be made the instrument of gratifying any man's private animosity.

I AM too much indebted to many enlightened Gentlemen, in various parts of Scotland, for the local information they have favoured me with, not to take this opportunity of publicly expressing my thanks and obligations.

It is with cordial pleasure I mention, that, in the month of September last, the foundation-stone of the New Gaol of Edinburgh was laid. This Prison, so much and so long desired, is to be completed from the excellent designs of Mr. Robert Reid. As soon as it is ready for the reception of prisoners, the present Tolbooth, mentioned in the following Tour, will be pulled down.

The Lord Provost and Magistrates are also about to make an application to Government for further aid, to enable them to finish the College. Those who support such an application will do honour to themselves, and confer a lasting obligation upon that illustrious Seminary.

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ERRATA.

Page.	Line.	
11	8 & 9	*dele* in the number of its churches, *and insert* it, *after* memory.
24	14	*dele* is.
54	23	*dele* but notwithstanding this precaution.
55	3	*read* a *before* scale-stair.
77	15	*for* south *read* north.
90	17	*after* completed *read* as originally intended, *omitted.*
139	5	*for* were *read* are.
161	20	*after* is a comma, *after* it *read* it is a fact.
183	16	*for* Cole *read* Coll.
192	21	*for* Scongal *read* Scougal.
194	10	*for* imo et altu *read* uno saltu.
264	2	*for* Duplin *read* Dupplin.
425	18	*for* Merven *read* Morven.
445	7	*dele* great.
461	24	*dele* and.
462	1	*dele* severity.
469	Chap xxv. l. 2.	*for* Mervin *read* Morven.
473	3	*for* Tobermoire *read* Tobermorry.
476	12	*for* Makeall *read* Nakeall.
491	4 & 5	*dele* one ton or twenty-one hundred weight of.

Page 438—line 7 from the bottom—*for* peevishness *read* peakiveness.

DIRECTIONS FOR PLACING THE ENGRAVINGS.

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Glasgow 533

A

TOUR THROUGH SCOTLAND.

CHAP. I.

TRAVELLING INFATUATION—ANECDOTE OF A SCOTCHMAN IN ITALY—A CONSOLING REFLECTION—CAMBRIDGE—ITS BEAUTIFUL COLLEGE WALKS—THE EXQUISITE ARCHITECTURE OF KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL—PEMBROKE COLLEGE—ANECDOTE OF MR. PITT—MR. FOX—A WINDOW FULL OF ABSURDITIES—FACETIOUS VERSES—DR. CLARKE'S ANTIQUES—STAMFORD—SINGULAR MODE OF STRENGTHENING A WEAK BUILDING—REMARKS UPON YORK MINSTER—HINTS TO DIVINES—THE CASTLE AT YORK—DURHAM—REMARKS UPON THE CATHEDRAL AND THE PRISONS.

HOW common in practice, and yet how inexplicable upon principle is it, that we wander from adjacent beauties to remote ones, which, after much toil of mind and body, frequently prove to be inferior to those we leave behind, which have a thousand times courted us in vain both by their attractions and their facilities of access! How often do

we brave the seas and the tempests to draw pleasure from continental resources, and how frequently do we learn from foreigners the beauties of our own country! Is it that we place a false value upon what is difficult of attainment, and feel but little relish for that which can be procured with little exertion? A Scottish gentleman, in whose estate a hill, called Mount Damietta, stands, near Stirling, when in Italy was expressing to a native of that country the delight which the scenery of that beautiful region afforded him, and declared it to be the finest in the world. "It is very fine, undoubtedly," said the Italian, "but inferior to one in *Scotland;* I mean the view from the hill Damietta, near Stirling." The Scottish gentleman was much surprised, and somewhat embarrassed in not being able to make the comparison himself, for the truth was, he had never visited the top of his own mount, and was ashamed to own it.

After having felt somewhat of this fashionable infatuation, with delicate health, however, to offer in excuse, I resolved upon judging for myself of a people and a country long renowned in history, and who, in the pages of a writer high in the annals of literary fame, appeared with a double character, at one time inviting with attraction, at another repelling with disgust.

In the pursuit of my object, I had the additional satis-

faction of reflecting that I had no boisterons seas to cross, and no keen and perilous investigations of a hostile police to encounter. Having purified my mind from the prejudices which ill-humoured or sarcastic representations had at various times impressed upon it, I set off for Scotland; and as the line of route was to me in some degree novel, I loitered a little in my way, to contemplate objects that I found not only new, but highly interesting.

I commenced my tour with emotions of gratitude to that beneficent and all-wise Ruler who has hitherto preserved us from sharing in the humiliation of so many nations of the earth, and who enables us to wander, as business, pleasure, or the love of information may impel, over a country which we may still proudly call our own, without being compelled to witness the devastations of war, or to contemplate the triumphant march of insatiable ambition.

Seated in an island favoured by Heaven, and fortified by nature against the political storms that rage around us, we view their angry progress, as the astronomer in the calmness of the night contemplates the erratic course of the flaming meteor, in safe and solemn meditation.

The delightful month of June had just commenced when I left London; and, after passing through a country which

possessed very little to gladden the eye or interest the mind, I arrived at Cambridge, where I had the gratification of being the bearer of letters of introduction to several gentlemen distinguished for their knowledge, and extent of research in distant countries, and of contemplating many magnificent and venerable edifices sacred to learning, along whose walls the Cam slowly and silently moves, as if conscious that it flowed through the seat of study and meditation, reflecting upon its dark and placid surface many a luxuriant bank, and tree of stately growth, harmoniously grouped together, and naturally disposing the mind unfamiliarized to the scene, to pensive reflection.

The groves and gardens of the colleges are equally sweet and equally solemn; but they had materially suffered by a recent and violent flood, which had overflowed the country to a great extent, and had left many rueful marks of its visitation upon tree, shrub, bank, and flower. Among the trees, three weeping elms are pointed out to the stranger, which cannot be seen without admiration. I do not mean to fatigue the reader by elaborate architectural descriptions of the different buildings which adorn this celebrated seat of science; but I cannot pass over unnoticed the chapel of King's College, which, for size, lightness, and beauty, has no rival in this country, and, I am well informed, none in any other.

In this, as in most pure Gothic buildings, the principal exterior decorations are reserved for its summits; but what pencil or pen can adequately pourtray the symmetry and beauty of the interior of this pile? The eye rises with delight from the floor to the elegant roof of Gothic arches, springing from their buttresses; it then roves along the "slender shafts of shapely stone," finely contrasted with the florid richness of the painted windows, and the whole decorated with a profusion of elaborate ornaments, varying from each other in form, and rivalling each other in beauty. The imagination is more disposed to consider this exquisite structure as the fabled temple raised by magic than a fabric of human workmanship. It stands a splendid monument of the taste, piety, and munificence of Henry VI. its original founder, and of succeeding sovereigns. The sight of such a building would nobly remunerate the pains and perils of a long pilgrimage.

A natural curiosity induced me to pay an early visit to the rooms which the illustrious Pitt occupied in Pembroke College, where I felt that glow of enthusiasm which departed genius never fails to excite in the spot which it has rendered sacred by its presence. A professor, who favoured me with his company on the occasion, had the honour of having known that exalted character well. He informed me, in opposition to the generally credited

remark that Mr. Pitt knew but little of Greek, that he was thoroughly well versed in that language at the age of fourteen, but that he never quoted from any Greek authors in the senate, from a well-founded conviction that the only impression he would have excited amongst the greater portion of his auditors would have been that of pedantry. How finely and powerfully his Latin quotations applied is in the public recollection. Mathematics formed his favourite study, to the pursuit of which, he used to observe, he intended to return, whenever the cares of the state no longer demanded his undivided attention. Although he shook the senate with the thunder of his eloquence, in private life he was remarkable for his gentle and unassuming manners. In the colloquial pleasures of the table he would listen with the most patient good humour to great talkers, and argue with them as if his mental powers had been but a little above their own. He never, like Jupiter conversing with the clown, appealed to his thunder. He supported the diffident, and played with the overbearing: in short, in the hours of relaxation, he charmed and delighted, as much as, in those which were devoted to the public welfare, he excited the astonishment and admiration of the world.

It is a matter worthy of remark, that scarcely in one instance, throughout the eventful histories of two of the

most illustrious statesmen and orators that ever adorned this or any other country, is any coincidence to be found, except in the extent and brilliancy of their mental powers, and the melancholy fate which consigned them together to the common lot of mortality. Even in their early studies, whilst Cambridge derives increased celebrity from having the name of Pitt upon her records, Oxford may boast with equal pride the lasting honour of having imparted to Fox the treasures of her learning.

The same spirit of (I hope not illaudable) curiosity induced me to explore the apartments which Gray occupied in the same college. Strange to remark, no one belonging to it could be found to tell me where they were. At last an aged inhabitant of the town was sent for, who immediately conducted me to them. In one of the rooms of this college there is a medallion of Mason. The professor I before mentioned remembered Gray when at college, and observed that what principally remained upon his recollection was his large aquiline nose, and cold inaccessible manner: in the garden belonging to this college there is a Gothic bower remaining, though hastening to rapid decay, which he and Mason planned. It is singular that in the common hall there is no portrait of either Gray or Pitt: to the memory of the latter, however, a fine statue is to be erected in the senate house, by that able and tasteful artist, Nollekens.

Under one of the windows in one of the rooms which Gray previously occupied at St. Peter's College, there still remains a staple, which the Poet, who was very fearful of fire, had fixed there, for the purpose of escaping from the danger of that element by a rope ladder. An authentic anecdote is told of a college trick which was upon this occasion played off upon him, in revenge for his general unpleasant deportment and unmanly timidity. He was one night roused from his slumbers by a loud cry of "Fire;" upon which he immediately affixed his ropes, and descended into a large tub of water, which his roguish comrades had placed under his window to receive him. Thus, thinking to escape from one element, he fell into another. In consequence of this trick the Bard left St. Peter's for Pembroke.

In the chapel of Trinity College there is an exquisite statue of the immortal Newton, in white marble, by Roubiliac. The great philosopher is represented in a loose gown, with a prism in his hands, and his face elevated to Heaven, as if in divine meditation. On the pedestal is inserted

"Qui genus humanum ingenio superavit."

The library of Trinity College is a very noble room, and said to contain many valuable books, but it is sadly disfigured by the window of painted glass at the south end,

representing Sir Isaac Newton, who died in 1726, being presented to his present Majesty, George the Third, who was born in 1738: the king is seated upon a throne, holding a laurel chaplet in one hand, and attended by Minerva, whilst below the Lord Chancellor Bacon, who died in 1626, is seen preparing to register the reward which the sovereign is about to bestow upon the philosopher, who died about twelve years before his royal benefactor existed. The execution of this gaudy association of the dead and of the living, this transparent portrait of absurd anachronisms, corresponds with the design. Amongst the MSS. in this library are the Comus and other poems of Milton, in his own hand, with his alterations. The admirers of the sublime and beautiful in poetry may be gratified by seeing a lock of hair of this illustrious bard at Lord Fitzwilliam's, at Richmond.

In the vestibule of the public library are some valuable antiquities, which have been presented to it by Dr. Clarke, a gentleman equally known for his learning, and the uncommon enterprise and enthusiasm with which he achieved a very extensive tour through various distant countries, particularly in Greece, from which, at considerable cost and with infinite address and labour, he contrived to bring the celebrated colossal bust of Ceres, exhibiting part of the body, from the girdle upwards, from the temple of Eleusis, and present it to his Alma Mater. In raising and embellishing

this gorgeous and stupendous temple, the most illustrious artists of Greece are said to have exerted their highest energies, until they left it a work of matchless perfection, at once the admiration and wonder of the world. Amongst the literary treasures collected by Dr. Clarke, in the course of his travels, are a Plato, beautifully written on vellum, by Professor Porson styled a monument of literature, and other valuable works from Patmos, Naxos, Mount Athos, and from Constantinople. The Doctor has also brought some antique monuments from Sais, in Egypt, (the ruins of which city were first discovered by Messrs. Clarke and Crips,) and various other antiquities from Upper Egypt, collections of medals and vases from all parts of Greece, and sculpture and inscriptions from the Cimmerian Bosphorus, the Crimea, the shores of the Euxine, the Plain of Troy, the Greek Islands, and the Grecian Continent. The public has been long in expectation of seeing in print the researches and observations of this elegant and learned traveller, and it is to be hoped that so high a gratification will not be long delayed.

After viewing the magnificent edifice devoted to piety or learning, the traveller will do well to visit a fabric of a different nature; I mean the gaol, which is small, but admirably designed and constructed. In the discipline of the prison I saw nothing to object to, except an unneces-

sary weight of irons with which an unfortunate delinquent was loaded, and which, the goaler himself acknowledged, were much too ponderous; but I think he added, they had none lighter. This matter is not unworthy the attentionof the gentlemen to whom the inspection of the prison is entrusted.

From Cambridge I proceeded to Stamford, through Huntingdon. The fens are much drained, and the country was extremely pleasant. Stamford, in the number of its churches, brought the city of Cologne to my memory, which, as well as most of the houses, are built of a fine and hard stone, brought from a neighbouring quarry, and with which Downing College at Cambridge is to be constructed, when the architect and the mason are no longer restrained by the torpid spells of the law. Apprehensions having been entertained that St. Mary's Church, the handsomest building in the town, was giving way, the inhabitants had it cramped up with iron, and by an Hibernian mode of proceeding, to make it more secure, have, as I was informed, suspended in it *two additional bells*. Stamford stands upon a rocky soil, so porous, that the inhabitants have only to make a cess-pool or deep hole, and every thing thrown into it soon disappears. Burleigh House and Park adjoin the town, and give it the only interest which it possesses. This munificent donation of Elizabeth to her favourite mi-

nister is well known. Compared with his merits, she courteously said it was too small. In the noble apartments are many costly and exquisite paintings. On that of our Saviour by Carlo Dolce, so justly celebrated, I gazed long and ardently, and withdrew with emotions of admiration and regret. The divine face seemed sufficient to kindle the flame of piety in the breast of the most depraved. The new lodge is in bad taste: the towers are surmounted with domes resembling large full-grown cabbages inverted, which produce an unpleasant effect.

In my way to York I passed through Doncaster, the elegant appearance of which cannot but arrest the attention of the traveller. York is a great and gloomy city, enriched by one of the most grand and beautiful specimens of Gothic architecture in the kingdom. For nearly twenty years, the old and decaying parts of this beautiful cathedral have been restoring. In this very nice and difficult work, an ingenious mason, of the name of Shute, has been employed for a considerable length of time. What has been done has been creditably done; but it would have been better under professional direction, which is not thought necessary. Such is the case at Westminster, and I believe at Lincoln. Whilst such a method is used, it is well that the cathedral of York is under such excellent government, for it might have had

a dean * of less taste and judgment, and less enthusiasm with regard to purity of style.

Although no one is more happy to acknowledge the general taste as well as the profound learning of our churchmen than I, yet I cannot as readily admit that they can be, without the assistance of a skilful and experienced architect, capable of faithfully restoring the delicate "foliaged tracery" of Gothic architecture, by merely modelling and copying different parts of the original fabric. To copy with fidelity and effect is an effort of knowledge as well as of labour. What mason could copy with truth and effect the exquisite productions of Flaxman and Nollekens? Not the minutest ornament should be replaced, in such venerable and beautiful piles as I have enumerated, but under the superintendence of an able artist. The ravages of time upon the minster of York will furnish constant employ for the restoring hand of art for a century to come.

This august pile has been frequently described. It was commenced in 1171. Its interior corresponds with the majesty of its external appearance. The ancient painted windows are of exquisite workmanship, and at a distance resemble delicate light-coloured lace work. As far as the

* The Rev. Dr. Markham.

senses are concerned in aid of a spirit of devotion, I cannot but think that the *pure* Gothic is the best adapted for that purpose. In this minster, in the abbey of Westminster, and in similar buildings, I feel a *religious awe* pervade my mind which I never feel in the vast and majestic cathedral of St. Paul. But for the sound of the organ, and the voice of the choristers, it might be regarded as a stupendous pantheon instead of a place of devotion. In the screen are the effigies of several of our kings, one of which very whimsically presents itself to the eye with red hair gilt, by which the artist intended to show, that in this prince's reign it was the fashion to *powder the hair with gold dust*. In the library belonging to the minster, there is a fine volume, in vellum, containing Erasmus's works. This library is intended to be removed to the chapel, which formerly belonged to the archbishop's palace. In this city there is an annual display of benignity which I cannot pass over in silence; a spirit of liberality, which it would be well for the world were it more imitated. A nunnery has been established here for many years, in which there are about one hundred and thirty young ladies, who are brought up in the Catholic religion; the Lady Abbess pays a yearly visit to his Grace the Archbishop of York, by whom she is always most kindly and cordially received.

The castle, standing upon an elevated and spacious area

of ground, containing the county hall, (a superb building of the Ionic order,) and the old and new prisons, is highly deserving of attention. The Court of Nisi Prius is formed after the best possible plan for hearing and for accommodation, two essentials which are not often found in any of our seats of justice. The prison for felons is the ancient gaol, which, although inferior to modern buildings of this description, is far from being objectionable. The magistrates deserve the thanks of their county for the constant attention which they pay to the discipline of this prison, which is in consequence kept very clean; and the unfortunate felons, of whom there were only fifteen when I visited it, are enabled by their labour to support themselves tolerably well until delivered by due course of law: humane discretion is visible here in the weight of the prisoners' chains. Opposite to the county hall, and corresponding with it in front, is a noble building, containing the prisons for female felons and debtors, hospital, &c. which do great honour to the skill and taste of Mr. Carr, the architect. The debtors are also very humanely permitted to walk in the area. In the city gaol, I was informed by a magistrate, there were no prisoners, although the jurisdiction of the city extends over a population of about 25,000 persons. Another circumstance, equally creditable to the vast county of York, deserves to be mentioned. At the last general election no accident occurred, and no disturbance arose, although not less than

22,000 persons were brought from the country into the city to vote, and, as far as the fact could be ascertained, not one horse was killed from excess of driving. The ancient bridge over the Ouse has often attracted the pencil of the artist; and the ruins of St. Mary are still beautiful, though they have been lately much dilapidated, for the sake of the materials.

The ride to Durham is very pleasant, and frequently picturesque. This city derives all its consequence from its enormous cathedral, (situated in a lofty and well-wooded knoll,) the windings of the river Wear and its bridges, and the beautiful walks which adorn its meanders. In these walks are many elms and mountain-ash, of the noblest growth. The houses are in general mean, and far from corresponding with the features I have just before mentioned. The cathedral is a vast heavy pile, chiefly of Saxon architecture, a huge quarry above ground, the foundation of which was laid in 1093. The size of the interior, and the massy magnitude of the pillars, arrayed in all the clumsy magnificence of the Norman style, are all that are worthy of notice within. The castle, or bishop's palace, adjoining, is, like the cathedral, very large and gloomy. The rooms within are dark and unfurnished. The only object worthy of any notice is a curious and highly-embellished Saxon arch, in the long gallery, which, only a few years

since, was discovered behind a covering of plaister. Some, but a very small part, of the castle, is supposed to be coeval with William the Conqueror. The Bishop shews his taste by residing at Bishop Auckland, about eleven miles distant, and never entering the gloomy abode but when official duty renders it necessary. In one of the chambers, I am informed, is the coffin of St. Cuthbert, a large chest, strongly hooped with iron. As my Cicerone did not mention this circumstance, I have done it for the benefit of future travellers who are curious in such matters *.

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* The manor of Sockburne, formerly belonging to the Conyers, now in the possession of Sir William Blackett, Bart. in the neighbourhood of Durham, is held by knight-service under the Bishop of Durham, and by an observance of the following singular ceremony:—At the first entrance of the Bishop into the country, the Lord of Sockburne, or his agent, meets him in the *middle of the Tees* at Neesham, where the water is fordable, or at Croft Bridge, when he presents a falchion to the Bishop, as an emblem of his temporal power, and repeats the following words:—"My Lord Bishop, I here present you with the falchion wherewith the champion Conyers slew the *worm, dragon*, or fiery flying serpent, which destroyed man, woman, and child, in memory of which the King then reigning gave him the manor of Sockburne, to hold by this tenure, that, upon the first entrance of every Bishop into the country, this falchion should be presented." The Bishop then takes the falchion in his hand, and immediately returns it to the person who presents it, wishing the Lord of Sockburne health, and a long enjoyment of the manor.

In the ancient pedigree of the family of Conyers it is set forth, that "Sir John Conyers, Knt. who slew y^e^ monst'rous vennomous and poysonous wyvern, asp, or worm, which overthrew and devoured many people in fight, and the scent of the poyson was so strong that no person might abide it, and hereby p'vidence of Almighty God overthrew it, and it lyeth buried at

The prison is well calculated to punish the prisoner before his guilt is proved: the dungeons, which are below each other, are dark, damp, and unwholesome. The ventilators, which ascend to the top of the gaol, are choked up. The prisoners sleep upon straw; the common room is small, and badly ventilated; and the male prisoners are let out only seven at a time into a small yard for exercise, and that only twice a week, which yard is close to an inn, and commanded by it. It is additionally painful to reflect that the assizes are only held here once a year. The keeper of the prison is a humane and respectable man, and much regretted that the building was so objectionable. The bridewell is in a shocking state. The sleeping-room of the prisoners is a great cave under the road, strewed at the bottom with straw, like the stables of the robbers in Gil Blas. Into this vault I was shown, in mid-day, by the aid of a lanthorn: it was dripping with wet on every side.

Sockburne before the Conquest. But before he did enterprise, having but one childe, went to the church in complete armour, and offered up his sonne to the Holy Ghost, which monuments are yet to see. Also the place where the serpent lay is called Greystone." Tradition still points to the spot where this mighty worm or dragon was entombed. The story, if literally taken, is more curious than singular, in depicting the credulity of distant times; but it is most probable that this flying monster was figuratively used to denote some great rebellious Lord, who was successfully resisted by the gallant Conyers.

CHAP. II.

A VILLAGE OF BUTCHERS—EFFECT OF HABIT—BEN JOHNSON'S RIDDLE—SPANISH PROVERB—NEWCASTLE—EXPORTATION OF COALS—CURIOUS ANECDOTE OF A SHOT-TOWER—THE VILLAGE OF LEMINGTON—ROMAN PIECE OF PLATE—GREENWICH-HOSPITAL LANDS—HEXHAM ABBEY—NATURE PRETTY EQUAL IN HER GIFTS—NORTHUMBRIAN DIALECT—FRENCH LANGUAGE TRACEABLE IN NORTHUMBERLAND—A HINT TO THE TRUSTEES OF GREENWICH HOSPITAL—ROMAN WALL—A NORTHUMBRIAN FAIR—WATLIN STREET—ANECDOTE OF SIMY DOD—CAPHEATON—WALLINGTON HOUSE—A PEEL.

IN the road from Durham to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, I passed by Lumley Castle, a noble seat of Lord Scarborough, near Chester-le-Street, a village which is nearly filled with butchers, who supply the adjoining collieries with meat. The spiral smoke of these collieries blackens the atmosphere to a great distance, and gives to the surrounding country the appearance of a collection of volcanos. Between Chester-le-Street and Newcastle the traveller is carried over a very long and tedious hill, exposed and barren, called Gateshead-fell, (from the summit of which there is a fine view of the Tyne,) when the road might, with the greatest ease, be

carried through a beautiful vale. Upon this hill most of the grindstones, for which Newcastle is so famous, are found and manufactured, of which there are several depots, resembling so many piles of cheeses.

How full of accommodation is habit! a gentleman of Newcastle, who travelled with me from Durham, observed, that he looked upon smoke as good for all disorders, and particularly efficacious in repelling the plague; and a gentleman, who had a considerable property in the marshy part of Lincolnshire, before observed to me, that the *fens* were unusually wholesome.

Newcastle is a large and splendid town, but under a volcanic atmosphere, which threw a sombre tint over every object. The inhabitants, I am told, are not conscious of this. The crown-like summit of the tower of St. Nicholas is well worthy of notice. Wallis, in his History of Northumberland, vol. ii. page 221, thus describes this steeple:—"Four stone "images, at full length, adorn each corner of a square tower, "out of which rises a curious steeple, in height sixty-four "yards, one foot, and three quarters, decorated with thirteen "pinnacles, two bold stone arches, supporting a large and "beautiful lanthorn, on which is a tall and stately spire." Ben Johnson, it is supposed, made the following uncouth

riddle upon this steeple, preserved in Gray's Chorographia:—

> My altitude high, my body four-square;
> My foot in the grave, my head in the air;
> My eyes in my side, five tongues in my womb;
> Thirteen heads upon my body, four images alone.
> I can direct you where the wind doth stay,
> And I tune God's precepts twice a day.
> I am seen where I am not, I am heard where I is not,
> Tell me now what I am, and see that ye miss not."

The prison of this town has not participated in its improvements. It has no sick room, no chapel. In one small room were three felons, two of whom slept in one room, and the third under. The debtors were shockingly crowded: the only place allowed them for exercise was the leads on the roof. The felons have no place to take the air in. A miserable female convict some years since attempted to make an escape, by descending from the battlements (where she was permitted to walk) by a cord, which was too weak to sustain her, and she fell into a small yard adjoining, and died in consequence a few days after. The assizes are here also held only once a year. It is a matter of surprise, that, in a town so opulent and flourishing, a suitable prison should not be erected. It has been long in contemplation to build a new one, but the gentlemen of the corporation should be reminded of the Spanish saying, that "Heaven will be filled with those who *have* done good things, and the lower regions with those who *intended* to do them."

There are several very handsome buildings in this town, particularly the theatre, the assembly-rooms, (which were built about forty years since,) and the town-hall, by the quay side, on the weather-cock of which a rook used, during many years, to build its nest. There are very large glass-works carried on here, and manufactories of white and red lead; there are also manufactories of broad and narrow cloths, wrought iron, several soap-boileries, and potteries. The grindstones which I have mentioned are so frequently shipped from this place, that there is a proverb, "that a Scotchman and a Newcastle grindstone travel all the world over."

But its principal exportation is that of coal, the annual amount of which from the port of Newcastle is estimated at four hundred thousand *Newcastle chaldrons*, equal to seven hundred and seventy-five thousand *London chaldrons**. As I am upon this subject, it may not be uninteresting to mention that the annual importation of this valuable mineral into the port of London is averaged at *nine hundred and fifty thousand London chaldrons;* which, deducting about one-twentieth part, say fifty thousand

* Before the last war, for several years, it was nearly 448,000 Newcastle chaldrons: at which time considerable cargoes used to be annually freighted for Holland, and other parts of the north of Europe.

chaldrons, consumed in the counties in the neighbourhood of London, forms the annual consumption for London, Westminster, Southwark, and the environs, in which about two thousand six hundred chaldrons are consumed every day, for the whole year, which is doubled in very cold weather.

At Newcastle there is a patent-shot tower of great height, with which the following extraordinary anecdote is connected. Some time since it sunk on one side, and was alarmingly out of its perpendicular, which it recovered by an enterprising ingenuity of the persons employed, who dug away the earth from its opposite and more elevated side, until it recovered its level.

In the road to Hexham is the village of Lemington, where there are several glass-houses for window-glass, and a considerable iron manufactory; and nearly opposite, on the south side of the Tyne, are Smallwell iron-works, which are very extensive. In crossing the Tyne at Corbridge I passed by the place where a noble piece of silver Roman plate, richly embossed, was found some years since, now in the possession of the Duke of Northumberland, and which is frequently exhibited upon his Grace's sideboard. Above Corbridge, at low water, may be seen the remains of a Roman bridge. Roman coins are frequently found here,

and in the neighbourhood. Near Dilstone, or Devil's Stone, are the remains of the ancient seat of the Derwentwaters, now in the possession, with the rest of the property of that family, of the trustees of Greenwich Hospital. The friend and admirer of that magnificent asylum for the support of naval valour in its declining days will be happy to hear that the farm at Dilstone, comprising about five hundred acres, which about twenty years before was let at 500*l.* per annum, was lately re-let for 1,780*l.* per annum, and that most of the Greenwich-Hospital estates have risen in proportion.

Hexham is a considerable town, in which a large manufacture of gloves is carried on. The inhabitants appeared to be very idle; and every other house in the town is an alehouse. Colonel Beaumont has lately repaired and altered the old abbey, which with the rich lead mines, and all the other property now in the possession of the Beaumonts in Northumberland and Durham, belonged to the family of the Blacketts. Most of the lead from the mines is brought to Hexham, and thence sent to the smelting-mills in the neighbourhood for extracting the silver. The grounds about the abbey have been levelled, to group with the alterations, in consequence of which the bones of many a holy friar have been disturbed. This building is close to the church, which unites the Gothic and Saxon architecture; a large and venerable

pile. The view from Hexham along the vale, over the Tyne, commanding a very handsome bridge, through which that beautiful river meanders, with numerous sloping gardens on one side, and richly planted woods and elegant country houses on the other, is extensive and very fine.

> O! ye dales
> Of Tyne, and ye most ancient woodlands! where,
> Oft as the giant flood obliquely strides,
> And his banks open and his lawns extend,
> Stops short the pleased traveller, to view,
> Presiding o'er the scene, some rustic tow'r,
> Founded by Norman or by Saxon hands.
>
> AKENSIDE.

At Hesleyside, the seat of my friend W. J. Charlton, Esq. I was received with great hospitality, and, with him and his amiable mother and aunt, renewed in retrospection the scenes which, as accident brought us together, we had visited in various parts of the north of Europe. I leave to those who have thus agreeably met abroad and at home to conceive the pleasures of such an interview. This part of Northumberland abounds with more charms for the sportsman than for the lover of rural nature. But Providence is always equal in the distribution of its favours, though divided into infinite variety. In this bare and rugged soil, the poor peasant may, with very little trouble and as little expense, procure as much coal as he requires,

so that throughout the year the humblest cottage is rendered comfortable by the blaze of a cheerful fire. For two shillings and sixpence he can procure a two-horse cart-load of this valuable mineral, which lies horizontally, frequently only half a yard below the surface. In the neighbourhood of Hesleyside the Scottish character begins to appear, and the Scottish dialect commences. The ear cannot easily encounter sounds more horrible than those in which the language of the Northumbrians is conveyed when spoken in all its *native purity*. Most of the shepherds speak Scotch, some of the words of which are pronounced precisely the same as some words of German, and have the same meaning; for instance, a shepherd one day said to a friend of mine, "The maiden is no blaet," (shy). In German it runs thus, "Das madchen is nicht blöde." The French language is also traceable in the Northumbrian dialect; for instance, "Don't *fashe* (vex) me"—*fâcher*. "That is a fine *grozer* (gooseberry-bush)"—*grosseille*. "*Pezz*" is to weigh up; in French *peser*. These and many other French words are supposed to have been introduced in consequence of the number of French persons who accompanied Queen Mary to Scotland. Amongst the provincial expressions, the Northumbrian peasants say, *shearing* corn and *clipping* sheep.

Offended as the ear may be, the eye is delighted in contemplating the neatness of the peasants' cottages, which are

compactly thatched with heath, there called hether, and rendered impervious to the rain, whilst within every part is clean, and on either side of the sprightly fire there is an oven and boiler; the scene of content and comfort reminded me of the consummation of Frederick's (the Great) wish, that he might live to see the time when every one of his poor subjects had a fowl on a Sunday, to put in his pot.

Hesleyside is in the parish of Simonburn, perhaps the most extensive parish in England. The living might be made to produce about 5000*l.* per annum. I am informed it is in the gift of the trustees of Greenwich Hospital. If my information be correct, it would be wise, upon the death of the present incumbent, to divide it into eight or ten livings, to which chaplains of men of war ought to be exclusively presented.

The peasantry are uncouth in manners, faithful, keen, laborious, and thrifty. There are very few of them who cannot read, write, and cast accounts. The estates in this county are sometimes upon an immense scale, owing to the vast extent of moorland. Walnut-trees and poplars do not flourish in this county. The principal game with which it abounds is the grouse, and the black or grey game (the cock black, and the hen grey). On the borders of Scotland, however, the soil is rich and highly cultivated, so

much so, that a farm which till lately let for 80*l.* was re-let for 343*l.* per annum, and another was raised from 250*l.* to 915*l.* per annum. Much of the county has been greatly improved, within these last twenty-five years, by draining and planting. Near Hesleyside is Billingham, a miserable hamlet, filled with petty tradesmen, carriers, smugglers, and poachers. The inhabitants have a wild appearance, and realise considerable sums of money by their lawful as well as lawless traffic.

In a little tour which I made whilst in this part of Northumberland, I passed by part of the celebrated Roman wall, which I had also seen in my way to Hesleyside. We are informed that Agricola first suggested the idea of building this stupendous wall, by erecting, A. D. 79, a row of forts across the island, from Tinmouth, on the German Ocean, to the Irish Sea, to connect which, the Emperor Hadrian, in A. D. 120, and afterwards Severus, in A. D. 207, raised separate walls along the same tract of country; that Hadrian's Vallum appears to have been a turf wall, with a deep foss or ditch accompanying it on the north side; that there was another, called by Horsley the South Agger, or mound, at the distance of about five paces to the south of it, as also another and larger agger on the north side of the ditch, supposed to have been the military way to this work. These four works, it is observable, keep a constant regular

parallelism to one another. Upon this wall, which generally runs upon the top or ridge of the higher ground, both keeping a descent towards the north or enemy's side, certain castles and turrets have been placed. The sounding pipes, said to be made from one end to the other, were doubtless fabulous: much easier and more certain modes of communication could have been made. The wall ran from station to station, till an unfordable frith on one side, and a wide and deep river on the other, rendered its further extension unnecessary. Many antiquities have been and still continue to be frequently found, viz. Roman altars and tomb-stones, with inscriptions.

The foss of Severus's wall, running down a pretty steep descent from Brunton to the North Tyne, conducts the traveller to the curious remains of a Roman bridge, which has anciently spanned that river at this place. A great many large square stones, with holes in them, wherein iron rivets have been fixed, but which have been eaten away by rust many ages ago, still lie bedded on the spot, and defy the violence of the rapid floods. The Roman bridge stood a little to the south of the present one at Chollerford, over which I passed. I was present at a great scene of Northumbrian festivity at Stagshawbank fair, at which, as at the Dutch fairs before the Revolution, the high and the low from distant parts assemble. The principal characters who

supported the gaiety of the place were, as usual, professors of salt-box melody, fire-eaters, and keepers of wild beasts.

In my route from Hesleyside to Capheaton, the seat of Sir John Swinburne, I crossed the Watlin Street, a celebrated Roman road, which runs through Watling-street in London to Edinburgh. Upon the surface of the adjoining ground Roman coins are sometimes thrown up by moles. In my way, a very mean house, in a dreary waste, was pointed out to me, in which a singular character, called Simy Dod, for many years resided, and who had lately died after a long life of toil and penury, as a shepherd and grazier, leaving behind him a fortune of about 100,000*l.* At times he used to shear 50,000 of his own sheep. Such is the force of habit, his eldest son, to whom the largest share of this property devolved, having been before brought up as a herdsman, without shoes or stockings, still continues the same pastoral life and attire. Capheaton is the seat and manor of the ancient family of the Swinburnes. It is a charming place, well wooded about the house, having a considerable lake, with islands in it. This beautiful piece of water is also rendered extremely gay by a number of little sailing-vessels. In the grounds are several fine beech-trees, and about four miles of walks, kept in the highest neatness. The old part of the house was built in 1668, and has upon its front two singular figures, representing Men-

dicity and Hospitality. I spent a short time with Sir John and Lady Swinburne, whose mind and manners would give attractions to a spot less agreeable than Capheaton. Near this place is a lane, called the Silver Lane, so called from some Roman sacra and coins having been found there.

Upon my return I visited Wallington, the seat of my highly-respected friend John Trevelyan, Esq. This noble mansion was the residence of the late Sir Walter Calverly Blackett, Bart. whose memory will be long remembered for every quality which can adorn a leading character in a large and opulent county. The grounds are finely wooded and truly beautiful. The woods have been planted about seventy years. The beech, elm, and oak, are highly thriving; and the larch are considered to be the finest and the largest in the kingdom. The gardens are very spacious and well stocked, and contain a great extent of glass pineries, vineries, &c. and also a numerous collection of herbaceous and other plants. In a piece of water near the house, I saw some beautiful nymphæ albæ and nymphæ luteæ, gracefully grouped with other aquatic plants, growing in great perfection, which the refined taste of the owner has led him to cultivate with equal care and judgment. In the house are a fine whole-length portrait of Sir W. C. Blackett, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, the colours happily in

high preservation; two pictures of the Blackett family, by Sir Peter Lely; a portrait of Mrs. Hudson, sister of Sir John Trevelyan, by Gainsborough; and a portrait by Hoppner, of which it may be most justly remarked, that, had the beauty pourtrayed in the picture been less, it had been in that degree less like its amiable and accomplished original, Mrs. Trevelyan. There is also a very fine collection of curious and valuable china.

Adjoining to Wallington is the hamlet of Cambo, only worthy of notice on account of its having given birth to the ingenious Mr. Brown, better known by the appellation of *Capability* Brown. Upon my return to Hesleyside, I saw, in a little hamlet not far from the mansion, a vestige of the miserable condition to which the Border Country between England and Scotland was frequently reduced before the Union, (one of the happiest measures that ever occurred for the benefit of both countries,) in a strong ancient square building, called, in the Border times, *a peel*, into which, upon a signal of an approaching Scottish irruption, the adjoining farmers and their cattle took refuge. The former and their families occupied the upper rooms, and the latter were kept below; and the entrance was secured by a strong door, and a massy bolt of oak. There are several such buildings along the borders, remaining as melancholy memorials of an age of rapine. At Hesleyside a spur is kept as

a curiosity, which at that period used to be sent up in the last dish at the table of the chieftain, to denote to his lawless followers that their provisions were exhausted, and that they must scour the Border Country for more.

CHAP. III.

DEBATEABLE LAND—THE SHEPHERDS—FEROCITY OF THE ANCIENT BORDERERS—ANECDOTE OF BERNARD GILPIN—A ROYAL REMARK UPON A COW—BEAUTIFUL RIDE TO JEDBURGH—DOCTOR JOHNSON'S ENTRANCE INTO SCOTLAND—THE CATHEDRAL OF JEDBURGH—SCOTTISH GARDENERS—THE LITTLE NOSEGAY GIRLS—THE PRISON—EILDON HILLS—MELROSE—REMARKS UPON ITS ARCHITECTURE—A LUNAR MISTAKE—THE TWEED—A TRAVELLER'S FIRST IMPRESSION OF EDINBURGH.

THE imagination can scarcely picture a more dreary ride than I had from Hesleyside to Burness, a distance of nearly twenty miles, although called, in the random reckoning of the natives, only twelve. Not a tree or a hut was visible. The clouds, which rolled heavily and low, as soon as I ascended this desert began to disburthen themselves with the copiousness of a shower-bath all the rest of the way. High up in these mountains of heath, two melancholy drenched shepherds, wrapped up in their plaids, and their flocks plucking the scanty blade, and shaking off the rain from their fleecy coating, were all of animated nature that I saw, save an attendant game-keeper, who, having been annually accustomed to spread desolation amongst the grouse of these mournful and trackless borders, conducted me through

them, by the assistance of remembered marks and points of land, to our first stage, as if we had been at sea.

Before the Union, this tract of country was called the *Debateable Land*, as subject by turns to England and Scotland, and was frequently the theatre of many a sanguinary scene. This unhappy state of warfare is well described in Home's Douglas:—

> "A river here, there an ideal line
> "By fancy drawn, divides the *sister* kingdoms.
> "On each side dwells a people, similar
> "As twins are to each other, valiant both,
> "Both for their valour famous through the world;
> "Yet will they not unite their kindred arms,
> "And, if they must have war, wage distant war;
> "But with each other fight in cruel conflict."

This country was inhabited by a ferocious banditti, trained to arms, who lived entirely by plunder on both sides the barrier; and what they plundered on one side they exposed to sale on the other, and thus eluded the arm of justice. So skilful were they in robbery, that they could twist a cow's horn, or mark a horse, so as its owners could not know it; and in every other lawless manœuvre their daring craft and ingenuity set the most active vigilance at defiance.

Yet, although in this barbarous state, they were not insensible to the mollifying influence of religious persuasion, as will be proved by the following curious circumstance, which I have extracted from the Life of Bernard Gilpin, Rector of Houghton-le-Spring, in the reigns of the Queens Mary and Elizabeth. This excellent man resided some time on the Border Country, to endeavour to civilize the rugged inhabitants, and to impress them with the truth of the Christian religion. One Sunday morning coming to a church in these parts, before the people were assembled, he observed a glove hanging up, and was informed by the sexton that it was meant as a challenge to any one who should take it down. Mr. Gilpin ordered the sexton to reach it him: but, upon his utterly refusing to touch it, he took it down himself, and put it in his bosom. When the people were assembled he went into the pulpit, and, before he concluded his sermon, took occasion to rebuke them severely for these inhuman challenges. "I hear," said he, "that one among you hath hanged up a glove even in this sacred place, threatening to fight any one who taketh it down: see, I have taken it down;" and, pulling out the glove, he held it up to the congregation; and then shewed them how unsuitable such savage practices were to the profession of Christianity; using such persuasives to mutual love as he thought would most affect them. So barren was all

the Border Country, that a person telling King James a surprising story of a cow, that had been driven from the north of Scotland into the south of England, and, escaping from the herd, had found her way home, "The most surprising part of the story," replied the King, "you lay the least stress on; that she could *live* through the Debateable Land."

The inn at Burness is clean and comfortable: its larder furnished a tolerable repast, and its library two volumes of the Arabian-Nights' Entertainments, and Dr. Johnson's Tour to the Hebrides. I found the learned Doctor was not much admired as a tourist by the landlord, who was a Scotchman, and who gave me a dreary account of the forced ejectment of the peasantry of the Highlands. Amongst other stories of extreme hardship, he related that one hundred and twenty families had lately been driven from their farms by the military, who were called in aid of the operation of the law. Upon inquiry afterwards, I found that the statement, as far as related to this military ejectment, was not correct; and had no doubt been introduced into the story, to increase the disgust entertained against the present mode of merging the small farms into large ones, by the lower classes, who generally see with a microscopic eye, and who, alive only to immediate feeling, cannot think that any future good can atone for present privation.

My melancholy ride to Burness augmented, by contrast, the charms of the scenery which opened upon me soon after I remounted my horse, as a sable frame frequently increases the effect of a brilliant picture. After riding over about two miles of ground, in which oats were much cultivated, (a characteristic feature of an approach to Scotland,) I entered Roxburghshire, the frontier of which, in this direction, is distinguishable for picturesque beauty. The road to Jedburgh lay through meadows, here of vivid green, there of a rich mossy yellow colour; on either side were country seats, handsome plantations, winding streams, thick woods, and ruddy rocks rising majestically above them, crowned with luxuriant shrubs. Every object harmonised with its neighbour, and the neatness of the humble cottage was blended with the gaiety of the elegant mansion. Each winding of the road exhibited fresh subjects of admiration. Industry and prosperity shed animation over the whole. In all my rambles I never saw Nature in a lovelier form than she appeared in this ride of fifteen miles. The eastern entrance to Scotland, by the way of Berwick, is, I am told, as barren, as this is prodigal of beauty. I could not help exclaiming, "Is this "Scotland?" I regretted that Dr. Johnson had not entered Caledonia in this direction; the sweetness and luxuriance of the scene might perchance have mitigated, if they would not have entirely charmed away, the severity of prejudices which were conceived and cherished by

a long residence in the metropolis of England, and which he appears to have quitted for the sole purpose of endeavouring to confirm: the lateness of season, too, in which he travelled (for the Doctor did not commence his tour till the month of August, in 1773), was well suited to such an object.

Jedburgh is a royal borough, and the county town; it is surrounded by hills, at the bottom of which flows the river Jed. The remains of the cathedral, which unites the Saxon and Gothic architecture, are very fine; part of it is much dilapidated, and part has been repaired, and converted into a Presbytery church. In other places the same spirit of economy has led the plain and unaffected followers of Calvin to perform their simple worship amid the mouldering ruins of monastic magnificence. King David the First, of Scotland, consecrated his memory by richly founding and endowing the monastery of Jedburgh, as well as those of the neighbouring towns of Kelso and Melrose.

It is not possible to conceive any situation more romantic than that of Jedburgh; it is surrounded, and in some parts intermingled, with nurseries, orchards, and gardens, which give it, in this respect, very much the resemblance of Upsala, in Sweden. The trees here bear very fine fruit, particularly pears; and in this neighbourhood may be seen

the most successful results of skilful husbandry. Scotland has great reason to be proud of her farmers, who, by that thirst for information and habit of reflection peculiar to their countrymen, are enabled to unite theory to practice, and to extend the system of rural economy to its utmost perfection. It is a curious and an undoubted fact, that Scotland preceded England in the cultivation of the garden. John Leslie, the Catholic Bishop of Ross, who flourished in the year 1560, informs us, in the second edition of his History of Scotland, that Glasgow abounded in orchards and herbs; and Anderson, in his History of the Rise and Progress of Commerce, mentions that, in 1509, England could not furnish a sallad; and that cabbages, carrots, turnips, and other plants and roots, were imported from the Netherlands. History tells us also, that, till gardeners and various sorts of plants were *imported* from foreign countries, one of the Queens of Henry the Eighth could not be supplied with sallad, and other vegetables which she fancied. It is generally believed that the Scottish gardeners are superior to the English; but this, I am well informed, is not the fact: it is true that the former are better educated; but a Scottish gentleman has an objection to a gardener of his own country, unless he has been in England some years.

Scottish agriculture is greatly improved within these last

twenty years. Some of the best land close to Jedburgh lets at the very high rate of 6*l.* and 7*l.* per acre; the average rent is 2*l.* 5*s.* per acre. Turnips are much cultivated in the neighbourhood, where, as is the case in the Borders towards Hesley-side, the rise in the value of land has been astonishing. A respectable farmer informed me, that a farm belonging to the Marquis of Lothian, not far from Jedburgh, which was formerly let for 226*l.* was upon the expiration of the lease lately re-let for 1,010*l.* and that another rose from 120*l.* to 680*l.* per annum. The inhabitants derive their principal support from a considerable woollen and a small stocking manufactory, and bleacheries. The walks near the town are extremely beautiful, particularly that which leads to the Steward Field, to which as I was wandering, I was much pleased with the urbanity of three little girls, who were returning to the town, each the proud and merry mistress of a large nosegay, or, as it is called in Scotland, "*a flower*," and who, unasked, presented me with the finest roses in their possession. I thought myself in the neighbourhood of Lyons. These little traits are characteristic of the natural urbanity of a people, and therefore worthy of being noticed in the traveller's journal. Upon the banks of the river are shewn the vestiges of artificial caves, used as places of concealment during the Border wars.

The prison is over the gateway; it is small, but clean

and well ventilated: there were only two male and two female prisoners in it, a circumstance very honourable to the morals of the country. Each prisoner is allowed eightpence per day. The objections to this prison are, that there is no yard for exercise, and no privies. It is under the superintendence of a provost and four baillies.

I much regret that my arrangements did not admit of my going to Kelso, one stage distant, as I was well informed that the scenery all the way, and the town itself, are highly beautiful and interesting. About two miles after leaving Jedburgh, the charming meanders of the Tiviot attract the eye of the traveller; and, as I passed the park of Sir John Scott, I observed some of the finest oak, ash, and elm trees, I ever saw. Lord Minto and Admiral Elliott have delightful seats and grounds in the neighbourhood. On my left I passed Eildon-hill House, apparently in an unfinished state: it was erected by a gentleman who had a lucrative contract for victualling French prisoners. Immediately behind this mansion, the Eildon Hills, whose conical tops are seen at a great distance, arise very abruptly from a flat corn country. The genius of Walter Scott has raised a great portion of this country to the rank of classic celebrity: in his Lay of the Last, and, as it was well observed, the *sweetest*, Minstrel, he speaks of a wizard, called Michael Scott—

" That when in Salamanca's cave
" Him listed his magic wand to wave,
" The bells would ring in Notre Dame!
" Some of his skill he taught to me;
" And, warrior, I could say to thee
" The words that cleft Eildon Hills in three."
Canto ii. p. 52.

Upon the summit of the most northerly hills are the vestiges of a Roman camp. Melrose is the first stage from Jedburgh to Edinburgh; here the great attraction is the abbey, or abbacy, of that name, founded, as before observed, by David the First, of Scotland, in 736, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and long celebrated for the venerable and exquisite beauty of its Gothic architecture, which, when time shall have levelled its last column with the dust, will excite the interest and admiration of distant times, in the commemorative lines of the poet I have just quoted, who has an estate and country house in its neighbourhood. This abbey is said to have been the largest in the island, and its beautiful ruins now measure 943 feet in circumference. Melrose has been so often described that it is unnecessary for me to attempt that delightful task; I shall content myself with observing, that in elegance of design, in delicacy of form, and in justness of proportion, it is not surpassed, perhaps not equalled, by the remains of any other pile of sacred antiquity in the kingdom. Many of its minuter ornaments, representing oak-leaves, cabbages, &c.

are of the most exquisite workmanship. The eastern window has long been a subject of merited eulogy. This abbey in some degree resembles York minster, particularly in the buttresses and pinnacles; in its smaller ornaments it is much superior; it exhibits the finest specimen of Gothic architecture and sculpture to be found in Scotland. There, as at Jedburgh, the body of the abbey is converted into a kirk of Presbyterian worship.

How creditable to the country and gratifying to the traveller would it have been, had the Scottish reformers, when they placed their pulpits within the walls of these august remains, imbibed some portion of the exquisite taste which raised them, and imparted it to their more modern edifices of devotion! Who, without a sigh, can contemplate the blind zeal which prostrated to the earth so many stately papal structures? Who will not be thankful to the great but furious hero of the reformation in Scotland, for *not* having laid low the beautiful abbey of Melrose?

This, and many other fine remains, incontestably prove the great progress which the Scotch had made in the arts at a very early period, and remain as so many monuments of their exalted taste and munificence. Walter Scott has so finely described the abbey, and has so forcibly told the reader, "Go visit it by the pale moon-light," that it is now

much the fashion to contemplate it by the rays of that mild luminary. It is related of one enthusiast, whose pressing engagements prevented him from devoting more than two hours to the contemplation of this venerable object, and who resolved upon minutely following the recommendation of its minstrel, that by a sad mis-calculation he arrived at Melrose after the last quartering of the moon, and was obliged to return without being able to see

> —— the cold light's uncertain show'r,
> Stream on the ruin'd central tow'r."

I presume that one reason why the Bard has made this recommendation is, that the building may be more insulated to the eye, as its close neighbourhood to the town is a circumstance much to be regretted. The shadows of the night have no doubt the effect of detaching it from the profane society of the adjoining dwellings, and of giving it the appearance of more becoming solitude.

There is nothing in the town worth seeing. The road to the Caledonian capital crossed the Tweed, and lay through a rich country generally interesting, and exhibiting high proofs of cultivation. This beautiful river opened in the most exquisite manner, flowing clear, full, and majestically, through groves of fine and venerable wood, lofty craggy hills half-covered with brush-wood, and verdant banks

enriched with a variety of flowers and foliage, and overshadowed by a luxuriant growth of timber. The banks of this enchanting stream were the seat of the ancient pastoral poesy of Scotland, and have been long dear to the Muses. Several noble seats and parks, and the increased number and bustle of people and carriages, announced the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, which the common people call Auld Reikie, reik meaning smoke.

I have seen a considerable number of cities, but have never yet seen one so peculiarly novel and romantic, and very few so grand and impressive, as Edinburgh. The morning after my arrival, I was conducted to the centre of the Earthen Mound, with my back towards the castle, where the contrast of the objects within my view excited at once my astonishment and admiration. On my right, upon an elevated ridge, stood the Old Town, with its lofty houses, in sombre and sullen majesty; on my left the New Town, resembling Bath in the gaiety and splendour of its buildings; below a vast valley, once the bed of a lake; before me the North Bridge, bestriding this valley, and resembling an aqueduct, behind which rise the craggy summits of the Calton Hills, and on the side of them stands the castellated form of the new bridewell. The imagination cannot form such an assemblage of sublime and extraordinary objects. Nature and art seem to have happily exerted their energies in

bringing within one view all the varieties of their powers. The frontispiece engraving to the present volume is from this point of view. The classical eye has discovered some resemblance between Edinburgh and Athens; the castle has been compared with the acropolis, Arthur's Seat with Mons Hymettus, and Leith and Leith-walk with the piræus. If the North Loch and Cowgate were filled with water, Edinburgh would in a considerable degree resemble Stockholm, which stands upon insulated ridges of rock. This romantic city is constantly presenting a new picture with the progress of the sun, and upon the change of the atmosphere and the season: the stupendous and magnificent rock and castle finely grouping with every surrounding object. The ancient history of Edinburgh is well known; and to enumerate the vicissitudes to which it has been exposed by the political and holy wars of the country is foreign to my purpose. I shall only attempt to delineate those particular objects which engage the attention of the traveller, in the order in which I saw them; in the course of which it was my good fortune to be attended by some of the most respectable and intelligent persons of that capital, whose politeness and information enabled me to examine such objects with advantages not enjoyed by every visitor.

The situation of Edinburgh must be extremely healthy; it is surrounded by hills on all sides, except to the northward,

where the ground gently slopes to the Frith of Forth. It is bounded on the east by the Calton Hills, Arthur's Seat, and Salisbury Crags; on the south by the long ridge of the Pentland Hills, and the hills of Braid; and on the west by the Costorphine Hill; all of them objects of great beauty or interest. So many lofty mountains, and the opening to the north, frequently subject the city to violent, and sometimes terrible, storms of wind, by which persons walking in the streets have been often thrown to the ground; the effect however, upon the whole, is beneficial to the city, as every narrow street and passage is well ventilated. The extent of Edinburgh, from east to west, is about two English miles, and from north to south about the same distance; and its circumference about eight miles.

The principal part of the Old Town is raised upon a hill, which gradually rises from east to west, where it terminates in a rocky precipice of 300 feet in height, upon the summit of which stands the castle, now rendered, by the improvements in modern warfare, fit only for a garrison, though once entitled to the character given of it by Burns, in his Address to Edinburgh:—

"There watching high the least alarms,
"Thy rough rude fortress gleams afar;
"Like some bold vet'ran, grey in arms,
"And mark'd with many a seamy scar:

" The pond'rous wall and massy bar,
" Grim rising o'er the rugged rock,
" Have oft withstood assailing war,
" And oft repell'd th' invader's shock."

Along the summit of this rocky eminence extends a magnificent street, rather more than a mile long, commencing from the castle, and terminating at the palace of Holyrood-house, called in different parts by the several names of Castle-hill, Lawn-market, High-street, and Canongate: other parts of the Old Town are built upon the ridges on either side of this hill, and on the southern hill is raised the new part of the Old Town, in which are several handsome streets, and a mixture of new and ancient houses; this part is connected with the other by a bridge of nineteen arches, only one of which appears, called the South Bridge, thrown over a valley, now formed into a long, dirty, and generally very crowded street, called the Cowgate, the view of which from the visible arch, on each side of South Bridge-street, is equally unexpected and interesting. Towards the North Loch, the houses in the Old Town are of an amazing height, having, from their sloping situation, three or four more stories at the back than in the front.

CHAP. IV.

THE NEW TOWN—CLERICAL IMPUDENCE AND MEDICAL MODESTY—BEAUTIFUL PROMENADE—STUPENDOUS EARTHEN MOUND—HUMOUROUS OBSERVATIONS UPON THE WAITERS—SCOTTISH NAMES—THE TWIN BROTHERS—EDINBURGH IMPROVED IN CLEANLINESS—A WHIMSICAL BUILDING—NAKED WAINSCOTS—JOHN KNOX'S HOUSE—HOLYROOD-HOUSE—ROYAL HEADS—THE STUARTS AND BOURBONS—INTERESTING PORTRAITS—QUEEN MARY'S CHAMBER—ANCIENT UPHOLSTERY.

THE New Town, the great ornament of Edinburgh, is built of stone, upon an elevated plain on the north. The singular beauty of its situation is equalled only by the graceful arrangement of its streets, and the splendid assemblage of its buildings. Yet, compared with the bustle and population of the Old Town, there is a tranquillity in the streets, similar to that which is to be found in Berlin, and which gives it the appearance of being thinly inhabited, and an air altogether melancholy. George's-street is very fine: the people of Edinburgh think it injured by what is whimsically called the *impudence* of the clergy, in bringing the church of St. Andrew so forward, and the *modesty* of the physicians, in placing their hall so far back.

The east end of this street opens into St.-Andrew's-square,

which does great honour to the architect. The rest of the principal streets run parallel with each other, nearly a mile in length, intersected at right angles, and at pretty nearly equal distances, by cross streets, about a quarter of a mile in length.

The situation of Queen-street, which opens to the north, (the fashionable evening promenade,) is grand and beautiful beyond description. The eye, enchanted, wanders over parks, plantations, and villages, adorning a gradual slope of about two miles to the Frith of Forth, which exhibits a noble expanse of water; its shores decorated with every variety of rural beauty, and its bosom embellished with gliding vessels and rocky islets; whilst the elevated hills of Fifeshire, and the mountains of Perthshire, form a beautiful back-ground to this magnificent scene. In my opinion, it greatly surpasses the view from Richmond-hill. It is truly delightful to join an evening promenade in this street when the sun is shedding his last light upon this exquisite prospect, and also shining upon a number of well-dressed and beautiful females, who add not a little to the witchery of the whole. This fine prospect is beginning to be interrupted by the recent elevation of new streets, and particularly by the houses on a piece of ground, called Heriot's-row. The view from Prince's-street, which opens to the south, is of a totally different nature; it commands the vast depth

between the two towns, called the North Loch, the Castle, the North Bridge, and one side of the Old Town, rising in an august and solemn manner. In a dark night nothing can be more extraordinary and original in effect than the lights from the windows in this part of the Old Town, as seen from Prince's-street. This street was till lately the residence of fashion; but such is the increasing opulence of the city, that most of the houses are either occupied or taken by shopkeepers of respectability.

An easy communication is preserved between the two towns by the North Bridge before mentioned, which is 1,125 feet long, from Prince's-street to the High-street; the height of its great arches, from the top of the parapet to the base, being 68 feet; and also by the Earthen Mound, which is about 800 feet long, 92 feet high at the south end, and 58 at the north. This mound was commenced in 1783, owing to a petty tradesman, named George Boyd, who lived in the Old Town, having prevailed upon some of his neighbours to join him in the expense of constructing a little causeway, for their convenience in visiting the New Town, instead of going round by the North Bridge. This simple and rude communication induced the magistrates to grant permission to the builders of the New Town to deposit their earth and rubbish in this spot, by which this stupendous undertaking has been effected. It is calculated, that, at an average,

eighteen hundred cart-loads of earth were deposited there every day, for a period which brings the total amount of earth to one million three hundred and fifty thousand cart-loads. Thus was this immense mound produced without any other expense to the magistrates than that of spreading the earth. A stone wall, with openings at intervals, has been lately raised upon it, to protect the passengers from the furious gusts of wind so frequently prevalent here.

The number of handsome hotels were amongst the early objects of my admiration. Some of them are as splendid as any in London, and prove the rapid advance which Edinburgh has made in refinement. The rooms are elegantly furnished, and the servants tolerably clean and very attentive. Not many years since, the inns afforded the most wretched accommodations, and the waiters were so filthy that it was whimsically said of them, that if you were to throw one of them against the wall he would stick there. Indeed, so late as the year 1768, a stranger coming to Edinburgh was obliged to put up at a filthy execrable inn, or bad private lodging. The word *hotel* was then only known to those who understood French or old English: but the Caledonian, like the English capital, has experienced great changes for the better.

The house which the Duke of Douglas inhabited at the Union in the year 1792, was occupied by a wheelwright; the house of the great Marquis of Argyle, on the Castle-hill, was possessed by a hosier; Lord Dunmore's house was left by a chairman, for want of accommodation; and, amongst other vicissitudes to which the great and the little are subject, I was struck with the palace of the present Duke of Queensbury having been converted into, and now used as, a venereal hospital. In 1786, the areas for building shops and houses on the east and west side of the bridge, to the south over the Cowgate-street, sold higher, it is conjectured, than ground ever sold in any city.

Many of the best houses have a common door and staircase leading to the different stories above, as well as an ordinary street-door; and bells are almost universally and most judiciously substituted for knockers. Upon many of the doors, not only the names, but the places of abode of the occupiers, are affixed, to prevent the confusion which would arise from there being so many of the same name. I was informed that there are in one quarter of the city two brothers, living near each other, who are twins; and as they have two other brothers, they are designated on their doors as tertius and quartus; but, notwithstanding this precaution, they are so amazingly like each other, that even their own tenants frequently mistake them.

Upon his arrival in the Caledonian capital, an English stranger is at first surprised at the following definitions. A square is called scale-stair—a round stair, a turnpike—a court is often called a square. The Parliament-house is an exception—its site is sometimes called a close—sometimes a square. Now, properly, a close is a narrow lane; and a wynd, one of broader dimensions, which might allow a cart to pass. The same stranger might be disposed to think the lower Scotch never moved but by the compass. If he were in South Bridge-street, and to ask a Scotchman of the humbler sort his way to St.-Andrew's-square, it is ten to one but the answer would be, "Why you must keep straight northward, till you reach the Register-office, then turn to the westward, and the second turning to the northward again will tak' e to it." The streets are well paved, and kept tolerably clean.

Report has long been unfavourable to the cleanliness of the ancient part of the Caledonian capital, and I believe most justly so. Many travellers have mentioned with lively disgust the evening hour, when *omnium versatur urnâ*. It must have impressed the mind of a stranger with astonishment that a people so eminently enlightened should have been so long ignorant of habits, which, it might be fairly expected, would have been adopted by a country in the first stage of its refinement. It is therefore with great plea-

sure that I mention, that the police, having turned its attention to a subject of so much consequence, has succeeded in doing all that the construction of the houses in this part of the city will admit. The stranger, in his evening rambles, is now no longer subject to a warning from many a window, which is at length become an almost proverbial joke, and to the most disagreeable consequences of non-obedience to that warning. At a very early hour every morning the dirt is removed by carts, which are engaged for the purpose, and the winds soon purify the streets. A spirit of improvement in this sort of accommodation has lately very whimsically displayed itself at the inn of Alnwick, in Northumberland, where there is a *circular commodité*, with three elbow seats.

Upon entering many of the houses (and those of respectability) in Edinburgh, and, as I afterwards found, in other parts of Scotland, an English eye will be in some degree offended by the cheerless and uncomfortable appearance of naked wainscots, which have never been painted. Wainscots will rot in less time with paint than without, and perhaps the Caledonian preference in this particular may arise from philosophical economy. Very soon after my arrival at the capital, I had the pleasure of taking several evening walks to St. Bernard's Well, about half a mile from the capital. The well contains a spring of mineral water, mine-

ralised, as I was informed by a chemist, by sulphurated hydrogenous gas; over this well Lord Gardenstone has erected a handsome Grecian edifice, in imitation of Cybele's Temple at Tivoli. The public has access to the water, on paying a trifling remuneration to the person appointed to preside over it. As far as I could learn, under the influence of fashion, who reigns with undisputed authority from one end of the island to the other, the temple is not so much resorted to now as it was formerly. The verdant banks, decorated grounds, elegant villas, the shallow rocky bed of the river, and the little woods which embellish this favourite evening walk, are all very beautiful. Near the temple, a little to the westward, are the great mills, where the bakers of Edinburgh have their corn ground.

The interesting history of Queen Mary of Scotland naturally hastens the steps of the traveller to visit the place where she resided, in which to this day so many vestiges illustrative of her habits and life; leniently touched by the hand of Time, still remain. In going to Holyrood-house, I passed by one of the oldest stone houses in Edinburgh, that in which John Knox resided, which projects considerably into the High-street. I was shewn a window, from which, tradition says, this extraordinary man, whose robust genius was so well suited to the turbulence of the times in which he lived, used to harangue the people, and

pour out his anathemas against popery. Near this window is a figure in alto relievo, pointing to a radiated stone, on which is sculptured the name of the Deity, in Greek, Latin, and English. Opposite to this house, in the front wall of a house, are two very fine heads in alto relievo, supposed to be of Roman sculpture, and likenesses of Severus and his consort Julia. Of the origin of these heads nothing seems decidedly known. There is the following ancient inscription under them, supposed to have been placed there by a baker, over whose shop they once were :—

" In sudore vultus tui, vesceris panem. Anno——"
" In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread."
Gen. iii. 19.

After the celebration of Mass in the great chamber of Holyrood-house, I joined some of my friends there, and inspected this venerable seat of royalty, which stands at the eastern extremity of the city, at the bottom of that part of the High-street called the Canongate. This great room or gallery is on the north side of the building, is one hundred and fifty feet long and twenty-seven broad, and about eighteen high ; and is decorated, or rather disfigured, by the portraits of one hundred and eleven monarchs of Scotland, whose respective reigns would fill up about two thousand years. How faithful these portraits are the reader may judge when he is informed that they are all by *one* master, whose name

I do not regret to have forgotten, and that it is said a common porter sat for every one of these anointed heads. Such a miserable collection of trash I never saw but at the stall of some petty broker. They not only offend the eye, but augment the gloom of the room, and are altogether disgraceful to the building. Many of these execrable productions were defaced by the English soldiers, under General Hawley, after the defeat of the royal army at Falkirk, when quartered there in the year 1745; some have censured them for pettishly exhibiting their disinclination to the Scottish monarchs by the disfiguration; I blame them for not having boiled their kettles with them. This long and ugly room is used as a chapel for his Royal Highness Count D'Artois, and the nobility and their followers attached to him and the prostrate fortunes of his family, who are permitted, by the magnanimity of the country, to occupy the apartments in the east part and south wing of the palace.

To the unfortunate Count it has proved an asylum from his numerous creditors. What singular events occur in the history of princes, as well as of humble beings. The fugitive family of the last King of France find a sanctuary in the palace of the Stuarts, who, in *their* misery and exile, received consolation and support from the house of the Bourbons.

In one of the apartments of the Count, which, as well as the others, is wainscotted with oak, are portraits of her Royal Highness the Duchesse d'Angouleme, the last Dauphinesse, whose countenance very much resembles, in noble frankness, that of the unfortunate King her father; another of Madame Elizabeth; both well executed; and, I was informed by a French gentleman belonging to the household of the Count, very like the originals. There is also a copy, in oils, of Vernet, by Madame Elizabeth, valuable only as the production of so illustrious and persecuted a personage. There is very little, except a portrait of Charles the First and his Queen, and two pictures of their present Majesties, by Ramsay, capable by its attraction of detaining the visitor from the apartments of Queen Mary, which cannot fail of exciting the deepest interest, and of awakening many tender emotions. Her chamber is on the second floor, in which her bed and the furniture of the room remain as she left them. The bed of crimson damask, bordered with green silk fringes and tassels; and the cornice of the bed is of open figured work, and, considering its antiquity, in good preservation. Behind the hangings of this room, in part folded back, is the door of a passage leading to the apartments underneath. Through this door, it is said, Lord Darnley and the conspirators entered on the 9th of March, 1566, and effected the murder of Rizzio. The closet in

which this sanguinary transaction took place is in the north-west tower of the palace, and about twelve feet square, and opens into Mary's chamber, who was supping with the Countess of Argyle and the ill-starred Italian when the assassins dragged him away, (although he clung to his royal patroness for protection,) and butchered him in the adjoining chamber of presence, upon the floor of which some brown spots are shown, as the blood of the murdered musician. It may be just possible that this is not an attempt to impose upon the credulous, as I am informed that the stain of blood on timber is indelible. The chairs in the chamber are of singular construction, with very high sloping backs; and, however the taste of the present day might shudder to see them in a drawing-room, they are more truly comfortable than any I have ever sat in, though enriched with all the embellishments of modern upholstery. There are some pictures in this and the adjoining apartments, interesting only on account of their subjects.

CHAP. V.

CHARACTER OF QUEEN MARY—ANECDOTE OF A TRUE COURTIER—CONTEMPTIBLE JEALOUSY OF QUEEN ELIZABETH—A PARODY—ROYAL VERSES—MARY'S FIRST ENGLISH LETTER—THE CHAPEL—ARTHUR'S SEAT—A MUTINY—SUPERB PROSPECT—HUME'S MONUMENT—THE BRIDEWELL—THE REGISTER-OFFICE—THE BANK—SINGULAR CIRCUMSTANCE—ROSLIN CASTLE—SERMONS IN STONES—ANGELS AND BAGPIPES.

THE character of Mary has furnished matter for controversy for now upwards of two hundred years to many able writers: by those who have espoused her cause she has been depicted as a suffering saint; by her enemies as an angel of darkness. The truth may perhaps be found between: that she was not so spotless as the former, nor so criminal as the latter, have represented her to have been, is the most reconcileable to the various accounts transmitted of her. Bred up in a Court distinguished for its splendour and its levity, formed by the prodigal hand of nature to captivate all who approached her, and of a warm constitution, the unhappy Mary was exposed to scenes that were hateful to her feelings, and to temptations too powerful for her judgment and resolution.

She was eminently accomplished. At an early age she obtained such proficiency in the Latin language, that she declaimed in that tongue, publicly, in the hall of the Louvre, before the whole court of France; and, in an oration composed by herself, maintained that learning and the liberal arts were compatible with the female character. Of the French, Italian, and Spanish languages, she was also a complete mistress. She played, danced, and rode, to admiration. She also excelled in painting and needlework.

The following anecdote, from the Memoirs of Sir James Melville, who appears to have been a most consummate courtier and sycophant, will illustrate a little of the paltry mind of the jealous and sanguinary Queen Elizabeth, as well as exhibit his royal mistress, Queen Mary, in no unfavourable colours. Sir James was sent to the court of Elizabeth by Mary, as ambassador, to conciliate the English Queen, who was much offended with the conduct of Mary. The negotiator, having brought Elizabeth into good humour by his address, relates the sequel of that interview to have been as follows: "The Queen desired to know of me what colour of hair was reputed best, and whether my Queen's hair or her's was best, and which of them two was fairest? I answered, the fairness of them both was not their worst faults. But she was earnest with

me to declare which of them I judged fairest. I said she was the fairest Queen in England; mine the fairest Queen in Scotland. Yet she appeared earnest. I answered, they were both the fairest ladies in their countries; that her Majesty was whiter, but my Queen was very lovely. She inquired which of them was of highest stature? I said, my Queen. Then, said she, she is too high; for I myself am neither too high nor too low. Then she asked what kind of exercise she used? I answered, that when I received my dispatch the Queen was lately come from the Highland hunting; that, when her more serious affairs permitted, she was taken up with reading of histories; that sometimes she recreated herself with playing upon the lute and virginals. She asked if she played well? I said, reasonably, for a Queen." This passed before dinner, and Sir James, who was asked to dine at court with one of the ladies, was taken after dinner by Lord Hunsdean, who undoubtedly was instructed so to do by the Queen, to a quiet gallery, "that I might hear," continues Sir James, "some music; but he said he durst not avow it, where I might hear the Queen play upon the virginals. After I had hearkened awhile, I took by the tapestry that hung before the door of the chamber, and stood a pretty space, hearing her play excellently well; but she left off immediately as soon as she turned her about and saw me. She appeared surprised, and came forward, seeming to strike me with her hand, saying she

was not accustomed to play before men, but when she was solitary, to shun melancholy. She asked me how I came there? I answered, as I was walking with my Lord of Hunsdean, as we passed by the chamber door, I heard such melody as ravished me, whereby I was drawn in ere I knew how, excusing my *homeliness, as being brought up in the court of France,* where much freedom was allowed, declaring myself willing to endure what kind of punishment her Majesty should be pleased to inflict upon me for so great an offence. Then she sat down upon a cushion, and I upon my knees by her, but, with her own hand, she gave me a cushion to lay under my knee, which at first I refused, but she compelled me to take it. She inquired whether my Queen or she played best? In that I found myself obliged to give her the praise. On my pressing earnestly my dispatch, she said I was weary sooner of her company than she was of mine. I told her Majesty, that though I had no reason of being weary, I knew my mistress's affairs called me home. Yet I staid two days longer, that I might see her dance; which being over, she inquired of me whether she or my Queen danced best? I answered, my Queen danced not so high or disposedly as she did."

Mary was so beautiful, that it is said, when she was walking in the procession of the Host, a woman rushed through the crowd to touch her, to convince herself that she was not an angel.

In the Scottish College at Paris were deposited several manuscripts relating to the unfortunate Mary, which, in all probability, have been destroyed during the French Revolution, with many other valuable documents.

It is said that when the celebrated David Hume last visited that city, the Principal shewed him some of these important manuscripts, and asked why he had written so unfavourably of the Queen, without having previously consulted them? The Principal then put some original letters into his hand, upon reading which the historian burst into tears. Mary, in her opinion of her own sex, seems to have materially differed from Selden, who, in his Table-Talk, observes, "That men are not troubled to hear men dispraised, because they know that, though one be naught, there is still worth in others: but women are mightily troubled to hear any of themselves spoken against, as if the sex itself were guilty of some unworthiness;" for when one of the Cecil family, a minister to Scotland from England, in Mary's reign, was speaking of the wisdom of his Sovereign, Queen Elizabeth, Mary stopped him short by saying, "Seigneur Chevalier, ne me parlez jamais de la sagesse d'une femme; je connois bien mon sexe, la plus sage de nous toutes n'est qu'un peu moins sotte que les autres."

How well Mary understood Latin will appear from the following impromptu, which she wrote in her way to Fo-

theringay Castle, when within the power of her savage rival. Stopping for a few hours at Buxton, with her diamond ring she wrote on a pane of glass at the inn where she halted,

Buxtona, quæ calidæ celebraris nomine lymphæ,
Forte mihi posthac non adeunda, vale!

How sweet a poet she was will also appear from the following affecting verses, which she wrote, as she saw for the last time the coast of France, when she was coming over to Scotland, and which seem prophetic of her future misery.

Adieu, plaisant pays de France!
O ma patrie
La plus chérie,
Qui as nourri ma jeune enfance;
Adieu, France! adieu nos beaux jours!
La nef qui déjoint nos amours,
N'a eu de moi que la moitié;
Une partie te reste, elle est tienne;
Je la fie a ton amitié,
Pour que de l'autre il te souvienne.

For the gratification of the reader curious in such matters, I am indebted to a literary friend in Scotland for the following copy of the first letter which this unhappy Princess ever wrote in English:—

"Master Knoleis, y hauu har sum news from Scotland, y send zou to da the double of them. Y wreit to the Quin my gud sister, and pray zou to do the lyk conforme to that y spak zesternicht unto zou, and sut

hasti ansur y refer all to zour discretion, and will lipne beter in zour gud dalin for me nor y con persuad zou nemli in this langasg excus mi ivel wretein, for y nevver used it afor, and am hasted ze schal si mi bel whiulk is opne it is sed Saterday mi unfrinds wil be vth zou y sey nothing but trast weil, and ze send one to zour wiff zo may asur her schu wald a bin weilcome to a pur stranger hua nocht bien aquainted with her wil notch bi over bald to wreit bot for the aquantans betwix ous, y wil send zou litle tokne to rember zou of the gud hop y hauu in zou ques ze send a met messager y wald wysh ze bestouded it reder upon her nor ain uder, thus after my commendations y prey God hauu zou in his kipin.

Your asurede gud frind,

MARIE R.

Excus my ivel wretein the furst time.

James the Fifth, the father of Mary, when he was dying at Falkland, of a broken heart, on account of the miscarriage at Solway Moss, predicted the disasters that impended over her and Scotland, "It came," said he, "with a woman," (alluding to the family of Stuart having obtained the crown by marrying into the family of Bruce,) "and it will be lost by one." To return to Holyrood-palace. This palace is of a square form. The western or principal front is heavy and gloomy, consisting of two double towers, connected by a gallery, surrounded by a ballustrade, in the middle of which is a handsome portico, adorned with four Doric columns, which support a cupola in the form of an imperial crown, under which is a clock, and over the gateway are the royal arms of Scotland, as borne before the Union. The front to the east is very light and

elegant; it consists of three stories; between the windows of the first are pilasters of the Doric order; between those of the second, pilasters of the Ionic; and between those of the third are an equal number of the Corinthian. The greater part of the present palace was designed by Sir William Bruce, a distinguished architect in the reign of Charles II. executed by Robert Mylne, who has a monument erected to his memory in the burying-ground of the antient monastery adjoining.

Close to the palace stand the remains of the chapel or church of Holyrood-house, the last relict of the wealthy abbey of that name. From the appearance of the ruins, the observer cannot fail to conclude that the chapel must have been a beautiful specimen of the Gothic architecture. James II. of England, repaired and fitted it up with considerable taste and splendour; a throne was erected for the Sovereign, twelve stalls for the Knights of the Order of the Thistle, and an organ; and Mass was performed with great solemnity, a celebration which induced the people, at the Revolution, in their fury against popery, to spoil it of all its ornaments, and to leave it a naked pile: with the same sacrilegious rage which characterised the early phrensy of the French Revolution, they tore open the graves of the royal and illustrious dead interred within its walls.

The reader will be as vexed to hear as I am to report, that this beautiful building owes its ruin more to the ignorance of an architect than to the barbarous zeal of an infuriated mob. At the instance of the Duke of Hamilton, the hereditary Keeper of the Palace, the Barons of the Exchequer issued a sum of money for repairing it; the walls were infirm with the age of six hundred years, and, instead of raising a slight roof, the sapient architect formed a massy one of flag-stones, which fell in on the 2d of December, 1768. The great eastern Gothic window fell so recently as in the severe winter of 1795. The belfry at the west end is tolerably entire. The remains of Lord Belhaven, who opposed the Union of the two kingdoms in a very eloquent, and, at the time, a much-celebrated speech, were interred within the roofless walls of the chapel. The environs of the palace are a sanctuary for insolvent debtors. That a pile of building should be capable of extending protection to any one against the just claims of the suffering creditor, that it should erect a barrier against the law, is disgraceful to the government in which such privileges are permitted to exist.

Adjoining to the palace is an extensive park, the appearance of which would naturally confirm an Englishman, especially had he entered Scotland by Berwick, in the suspicions which he had been taught to entertain of

the luxuriance of Scottish foliage; for scarcely is there the vestige of a tree to be found throughout this extensive park. The whole is brown and barren, and accords with the rugged, but magnificent, rocks and craggy hills, to which it leads in various directions. To the southward of the palace ascends with uncommon majesty a semicircular range of precipitous rocks, called Salisbury Crags, which immediately overlooks the city; and behind, with intervals of fertile valleys, rises the loftiest of these hills, called Arthur's Seat, the height of which is 796 feet above the level of the sea. I ascended it twice, and was amply remunerated for the toil and trouble of reaching its summit, upon which the following rather singular circumstance occurred in 1778. Government having determined to send the Earl of Seaforth's Highland regiment to India, without consulting the inclinations of the soldiers, and arrears of pay being due to them, they determined upon resisting the commands of their officers; and accordingly, one morning, when the regiment was at drill, the whole battalion shouldered their arms, and took possession of Arthur's Seat, the summit of which they made their head-quarters, from which they alike defied the threats and promises of their officers. At length an accommodation was agreed upon, through the address of the Lords Dunmore and Macdonald, two noblemen who were very popular with the High-

landers, and the mutineers returned to their duty, and embarked for their destination.

The view from this astonishing hill is truly superb. The eye ranges over the metropolis, the German Ocean, the course of the Forth, a richly-cultivated and populous extent of country, to the vast mountains of Benledi and Benlomond, until the Lawmonds, otherwise Wallace Markers, preclude all further view. The botanist and mineralogist will find ample subjects for investigation in these hills. About four hundred species of plants, both aquatic and alpine, and of all intermediate sorts, have been discovered in them. Arthur's Seat, and the adjacent rocks, are composed of whin-stone, which is used for paving the streets of Edinburgh, and the summits are supported by hexagonal pillars, somewhat basaltic.

At the foot of the greater hills are the ruins of the chapel and hermitage of St. Anthony, the whole of which must have been a very small establishment. The history of the chapel is very little known. The fraternity of St. Anthony had a monastery at Leith, supposed to be the only house of the order in Scotland. The brethren must have been fond of the rugged and sublime, to have erected their holy abode in such a spot.

To the north-west of the palace is the Calton Hill, a rocky eminence, commanding also magnificent prospects: nearly the whole of the city may be viewed from it; the town of Leith, the Frith of Forth, with its numerous shipping, the Isle of May, and the Bass Rock, and much of the scenery visible from Arthur's Seat. On the western side of the hill is the Calton burying-ground, in which, amongst other mausoleums, is one in the shape of a Martello tower, in which the remains of the celebrated David Hume are deposited, and which is visible from a great part of the city. Upon the summit of this hill a signal-house is erected, and it is in contemplation to raise the long-talked of monument to Nelson in the same elevated spot.

On the western side of this hill also stands the bridewell, a building the best adapted to its purpose of any I have ever seen. It was finished in 1796, from a design of the late justly-distinguished Mr. Robert Adam. It is a strong stone building, in the form of the letter D; the whole is surrounded by a wall, between which and the prison there is an area. It consists of five floors; the upper one is used as an hospital and store-rooms. A passage passes along the middle of the semicircular part of the building, with apartments on either side. Those towards the outside are used as dormitories, and those on the inner side of the semicircle, of which there are thirteen in each story, have an iron railing in

front, and look into the inner court, which is roofed and glazed, and lights the whole. Every part is composed of stone or iron, except the doors. The bed-chambers, which are each about eight feet long by seven broad, and furnished with a bed on an iron frame, and a table, are lighted by a long narrow window, the glass of which is fixed in a frame of iron, and turns upon the centre. Upon the top of the house are large cisterns, which supply every part of it with water. In the entrance of the Governor's house is a dark apartment, with high narrow windows, which commands every cell, and enables the proper officers to see whether the criminals are at work, without being observed by them. From this point of view, the interior resembles an aviary in form, and lightness of construction. The women spin, and the men pick oakum: they are never permitted to hold any communication with each other, and they are not allowed to take any exercise but what their work affords. In summer they work from six in the morning till eight in the evening, and in the winter from sun-rise to sun-set. The prisoners wear a prison dress, and their own is cleaned and preserved for them until the expiration of their confinement. I visited the kitchen, with which, as with every other part, I was highly gratified, on account of its arrangement and perfect cleanliness. The breakfast and supper of the prisoners is oatmeal-porridge and small beer, and their dinner broth, made of fat and vegetables;

and those who perform more than their task-work are allowed bread to their broth, purchased by the produce of the surplus of their labour, and a larger portion of porridge. On Sundays they have a portion of meat. The whole institution is under the careful inspection of the magistrates and the sheriff of the county, whose visits are frequent and regular. As a proof of the salubrity of the prison, and of the excellence of its discipline, I am informed by one of the principal magistrates of Edinburgh, that, although it has been used twelve years, during which it has constantly had, upon an average, not less than fifty persons confined in it, only four deaths have occurred in that period; and it is to be remembered, that many of the vicious of both sexes sent there frequently enter it in a state of extreme debility or disease, the fruits of a profligate course of life. This prison also affords protection to unfortunate females labouring under disease, not committed by any offence, but to whom it is necessary to be secluded from society for a time. The expenses incurred by this humaue indulgence, which I believe is not often resorted to, are defrayed by subscription or otherwise, and are not permitted to encumber the funds appointed for the support of the bridewell. I have been particular in describing this building, because it is a perfect model for a correctional house, and, as far as human wisdom and philanthropy can provide, protects and secures the person, inflicts the punishment, and improves the health

and the morals of the offender, in a manner which confers lasting honour on the magistracy of the country.

The Register-office is a splendid building, and most favourably and judiciously placed at the east end of Prince's-street, from which it recedes opposite to the North Bridge. Of this graceful pile the Scotch are justly proud, as well on account of its beauty as its great national utility. Its front is 200 feet, and its depth 120. In the middle of the former, which is adorned with a fine entablature of the Corinthian order, is a projection, in which there are three windows and four Corinthian pilasters, supporting a pediment; and above is a large dome, 50 feet in diameter and 80 high: at either end of the front are smaller projections, containing each a Venetian window, and surmounted by a small cupola. The object of this building is to afford a place of deposit, indestructible by fire, for the records of the country, many of which have, at different times, been lost or mutilated; and every act connected with an alienation of property in Scotland, affecting creditors, must, in order to be valid, be registered here. To those who know the abominable and ruinous frauds which are practised upon creditors in England by secret conveyances, this institution must appear peculiarly valuable. In York and Middlesex there are register-offices. How much is it to be lamented that one is not erected in every provincial division!

The decorations of the interior do not correspond with the external beauty of the building. The rotunda under the dome is disfigured by a vast collection of old and modern record and other books, plainly bound, which, instead of being concealed by green silk and brass lattice-work, obtrude themselves upon the eye, and accord with the noble appearance of the room just as well as the hat of a mendicant would become a Knight of the Bath in his full robes. The statue of his present Majesty, by the Hon. Mrs. Damer, is not one of the happiest productions of that distinguished statuary. This building cost 40,000*l.* in erecting, and is only half of the original plan.

Amongst the beautiful modern structures which embellish this city, I must not pass over the Bank of Scotland, the south and west sides of which appear in the frontispiece. It stands nearly at the head of the entrance of the Earthen Mound. As it is reared upon the ridge of a hill, much labour and cost were expended in finding a solid foundation: it is said that there is as much stone and mortar below, not visible, as there is in the structure which is raised above it. A handsome stone curtain, with a ballustrade, conceals the dead wall on the north part of this structure, where the declivity is very great. The whole has a very light and elegant effect, and, seen from Prince's-

street, finely contrasts with the lofty sombre houses which are its near associates.

It is a fact worthy of observation, that there is not a single house in the New Town which has been built of Scottish timber; the whole having been brought from the shores of the Baltic—a circumstance owing to the plantations in Scotland being of recent date, although it is upon record, and sufficient evidences remain, that in former times it abounded with forests.

The day which, with some friends, I had selected for a visit to Roslin, being very favourable, we set off for that place, which has so often excited the admiration of all descriptions of visitors. It is about seven English miles south from Edinburgh, and some agreeable prospects embellish the road to it. The chapel is rather small; but it is a beautiful piece of Gothic architecture. It is 40 feet 8 inches from the floor to the top of the arched roof; 34 feet 8 inches broad, and 68 feet long. The inside is divided into a middle and two side aisles, by seven thick columns on each side, supporting pointed arches. The profusion of ornaments is astonishing, and would be tedious in description. Some of them are really "*sermons in stones,*" or illustrations of the Bible, cut in stone in the most grotesque and extraordinary style.

At the south-east corner there is a descent by a flight of steps into a little crypt, or chapel. An old woman who shews the building is also a great curiosity, and tells a long gossiping story of the architect's knocking out the brains of his apprentice, because, during his absence, he executed a fine fluted column, called the Apprentice's Pillar, near the high altar, ornamented with wreaths of foliage and flowers, in alto relievo, twisting spirally round it in a style which excited his envy. In proof of the story she shews the head of the apprentice supporting a bracket in the wall, which resembles a bearded old man. Upon the architraves of one of the pillars there is an angel playing upon a *bagpipe*. I hope it is not to be presumed that he brought that instrument from Heaven.

Although there are now only a few cottages and houses at Roslin, it appears to have held at one time high rank amongst the cities of Scotland.

William St. Clare, Earl of Orkney and Caithness, who founded it in 1440, lived in great magnificence at his castle near this chapel. Mr. Hay, in his MS. in the Advocates' library, says, "About that time," (that is, at the building of the chapel,) "the town of Roslin, being next to Edinburgh and Haddington, in East Lothian, became very populous by the great concourse of all ranks and degrees of visitors that resorted to this Prince at his palace of the Castle of

Roslin; for he kept a great court, and was royally served at his own table in vessels of gold and silver; Lord Dirleton being his master household, Lord Borthwick his cup-bearer, and Lord Fleeming his carver; in whose absence they had deputies to attend, viz. Stewart, Laird of Drumlaurig, Tweedie, Laird of Drumerline, and Sandilands, Laird of Calder. He had his hall and the apartments richly adorned with embroidered hangings. He flourished in the reigns of James the First and Second. His Princess, Elizabeth Douglass, already mentioned, was served by seventy-five gentlewomen, whereof fifty-three were daughters of noblemen, all clothed in velvets and silks, with thin chains of gold, and other ornaments; and was attended by two hundred riding gentlemen in all her journeys: and if it happened to be dark when she went to Edinburgh, where her lodgings were at the foot of Blackfriar's Wynd, eighty lighted torches were carried before her."

As I quitted this beautiful pile, Harold's song occurred to me:—

" O'er Roslin all that dreary night
A wond'rous blaze was seen to gleam;
'Twas broader than the watch fire-light,
And redder than the bright moon-beam.
It glar'd on Roslin's castled rock,
It ruddied all the copse-wood glen;
'Twas seen from Dryden's groves of oak,
And seen from cavern'd Hawthornden."

Lay of the Last Minstrel, p. 191.

A short distance from the chapel stand the ruins of Roslin Castle, the ancient seat of the Saint Clares, in a situation of singularly romantic beauty, upon a mount above the North Esk, the approach to which is by a bridge thrown over a deep ravine, and resting on a rock on either side. Vast compact masses of the castle (supposed to have been built in the twelfth century) have fallen down, and lie on the declivity near the bridge. The scenery around is enchanting; but I saw, with regret, that the merciless hand of the woodman had sadly denuded the surrounding grounds which slope to the Esk. The walks about the chapel and castle are much frequented by the citizens of Edinburgh, and their families, in the summer. It is *their* Richmond-hill, where they enjoy the fruits of the beauties of nature. Strawberries grow in great abundance there.

CHAP. VI.

HAWTHORNDEN—ANECDOTE OF DRUMMOND—DALKEITH—HOTCH-POTCH—ANECDOTE OF DR. JOHNSON—DALKEITH-HOUSE—THE ROYAL INFIRMARY—THE PARISH SCHOOL—THE NEW COLLEGE—THE SENATUS ACADEMICUS—REMARKS UPON THE DISCIPLINE OF THE COLLEGE—THE MEDICAL SCHOOL—REMARKS UPON THE PROFESSORS—MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE—ITS OBJECTS—ITS IMPORTANCE—THE COLLEGE LIBRARY.

THE walk from the castle along the river to Hawthornden is exquisite beyond imagination. It much resembles, only that it is more expanded, the celebrated Dargle, in the county of Wicklow, in Ireland. At every meander of the river new beauties banquet the eye. The general appearance of the scenery is more graceful than grand. Rich, red, and grey rocks, just rising above a succession of trees and shrubs, profusely and elegantly arranged by the hand of Nature, who seems proud to contemplate her work in the dark mirror of the winding stream that flows below, characterise this delicious spot. At length we saw the classic walls of Hawthornden, crowning the summit of lofty rugged rocks, from which the venerable structure finely harmonises with the luxuriant vale below, and the " ver-

drous wall" of trees that rises on the opposite bank of the river.

This ancient residence of the amiable and harmonious Drummond was worthy of the Poet. His song and his sufferings spread an air of tenderness over the beautiful scene, which affects the mind as it engages the eye. It is a scene in which the vivacity of the gay would be tempered, and in which the unhappy might find consolation. The Poet was of high descent. His family became first distinguished by the marriage of Robert III. whose Queen was sister to William Drummond, of Carnock, one of his ancestors. After being educated at Edinburgh, in 1606 he studied civil law at Bourges, in France; but the spirit of poetry soon seduced him from that barren study, and conducted him to Hawthornden, to copy and commemorate the beauties of Nature, which she had so profusely scattered round his retirement. It was here that Ben Jonson came from London, on foot, on purpose to see him. Here he wrote his Cypress Grove and his Flowers of Sion; and here he would have continued to pour his harmonious verse, had not the death of a lady, to whom he was devoted and about to be married, forced him to fly from his own affecting reflections to Paris, and thence to Rome, where he resided eight years. How forcibly and poetically he felt the loss that drove him from his romantic shades will appear in the few follow-

ing lines, in which the tender spirit of Petrarch seems to breathe.

" Lo! in a flash, that light is gone away,
Which dazzle did each eye, delight each mind;
And with that sun from whence it came, combin'd,
Now makes more radiant Heaven's eternal day.
Let Beauty now bedew her cheek with tears;
Let widow'd Music only sigh and moan;
Poor Virtue, get thee wings and mount the spheres,
For dwelling-place on earth for thee is none:
Death hath thy temple raz'd, Love's empire soil'd,
The world of honour, worth, and sweetness, spoil'd."

After several years had passed over his grief, it gradually yielded to the attractions of another fair one, whom he married. During the unhappy wars between Charles I. and his parliament, he suffered much in his mind, and strongly advocated the royal cause in several able writings, and at length died, overwhelmed with grief, upon hearing that the King had suffered upon the scaffold. His prose compositions are well known; and when the language of the country to which he belonged, and the age in which he wrote, are considered, the melodious sweetness of his numbers cannot fail to excite equal surprise and admiration.

As I stood gazing at Hawthornden, one of the windows opened, and a female appeared, who, my companions informed me, was the fair descendant of my favourite Bard:

my curiosity soon baffled itself; the young lady, with characteristic diffidence, withdrew as soon as she saw she had awakened it. In Miss Drummond, I am told by those who have the pleasure of knowing her, the cultivated taste and amiable disposition of her illustrious ancestor survives.

Below the precipice upon which the house stands are several deep caverns, hewn out of the freestone rock: one cave is called the King's Gallery, another the King's Bedchamber, and a third the Guard-room; and removed to a little distance is a small one, called the Cypress Grove, the subject of one of his poems, and in which, it is said, Drummond composed several others. These excavations are supposed to have been retreats, during the terrible wars which so long subsisted between the Scots and Picts, or English and Scots. They were also resorted to for concealment by the celebrated Sir Alexander Ramsay, an ancestor of the Dalhousie family, who distinguished himself for his prowess in the Succession wars between Bruce and Baliol; and by the young warriors of his time, who felt a romantic pride and honour in being permitted to join his standard.

Soon after quitting Hawthornden the country became more level, and presented a highly-cultivated and beautiful appearance. The friends who accompanied me in this excursion and I passed by many elegant country houses,

and at length arrived at Dalkeith, where, having ordered our dinner, we rambled into the town, which appears to be very populous, and is said to have the largest market for corn in Scotland; there are also manufactories of candles, soap, leather, and hats, carried on here. The houses are generally mean and dirty, but the inns are very good. We had here, what indeed is common in Scotland, some excellent hotch-potch, a soup of vegetables and mutton, which the Scotch make in perfection. It is related, that, soon after Dr. Johnson's return from Scotland, a Scottish lady, at whose house he was, as a little compliment, ordered some hotch-potch for his dinner. After the Doctor had tasted it, she asked him if it were good; to which he replied, "Very good for *hogs*:" "Then pray," said the lady, "let me help *you* to a little more."

After dinner we visited Dalkeith-house, the residence of the Duke of Buccleugh. This building is a large substantial family house, built in the beginning of the last century. There are some portraits in the different rooms, which are entitled to notice, particularly Saint Dominique and Saint Francis, by Carrachi; Saints disputing upon the Trinity, by Del Sarti; two Landscapes, by Lorraine; Elizabeth, Duchess of Buccleugh, and Lady M. Scott, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, very beautiful, but unfortunately, sharing the fate of other productions of that exquisite master, the

colours are rapidly fading. There is also, from the same great hand, a portrait of Lady Caroline Montague; and, what is singular, the back-ground is a winter scene, and a little robin is whimsically approaching her. There are also many more family and other portraits.

The grounds adjoining to the house are tastefully arranged, and well planted with shrubs; and the North Esk, which flows below, is adorned with an elegant bridge of one large arch, 70 feet wide and 45 high. The park is of great extent, containing about eight hundred Scottish acres, and surrounded by a wall. It has much fine wood, and many large and venerable trees, under the shade of which the visitor may enjoy the rippling and soothing sounds of the North and South Esk, which flow through this noble enclosure. The wood abounds with squirrels. In the evening we returned to the capital, much delighted with our day's excursion.

In company with my much-esteemed friend, Arthur Clifford, Esq. I visited the Royal Infirmary, which stands in the southern district of the city. Its building was commenced in 1738, and completed by the aid of splendid public and private donations. It consists of a body of two wings, three full stories high, and an attic story; the front is 210 feet long, and the interior is admirably arranged. In

the hall is a bust, by Nollekens, of the late Provost Drummond, whose memory is very, and justly, popular in Scotland. This humane character displayed the most unbounded zeal in promoting the institution; and the pen of Dr. Robertson has furnished the following grateful inscription under his bust:

"GEORGE DRUMMOND,
"To whom this county is indebted for all the benefits which it derives from the Royal Infirmary."

Over the principal entrance is a statue of King George II. in a Roman costume; and on the wall is inscribed, on the right side, "I was naked and ye clothed me;" and on the left, "I was sick and ye visited me." Two hundred and twenty-eight patients can be accommodated, with a separate bed for each; the males are separated from the females, and the medical and chirurgical subjects are in distinct wards. The hospital is visited every day by two physicians, in the presence of the students; and journals of all the cases are kept, in which are daily registered the symptoms of disease, the remedies prescribed, and the progress and termination of the disorder. Upon an average, about 2000 patients are annually admitted, and the deaths are seldom more than one in twenty-five. This institution is not only highly valuable for the extent of its charity, but may be considered as a seminary of medical education.

There are hot and cold baths for the patients, and also excellent baths, kept distinct, for the public, in the same building.

The High School is near the Infirmary; it is a plain stone building, in a bad situation, in the centre of a long enclosed area, and is divided into five school-rooms, besides a large hall and a library. The Latin language is taught in great purity, and the general system of education adopted is such as tends at once to improve both the head and the heart. There are five masters, who are gentlemen of great learning and respectability: they are very inadequately paid for their arduous attention. The head master is allowed 30*l.* and the others 20*l.* a year each; and each of the pupils, of whom there are generally 600, pays half-a-guinea a quarter to the master of his class. The examinations are annual, and usually, as is the case at the public schools in Holland, in the presence of the magistrates of the city, the professors of the University, and clergy. Many men who have afterwards shed lustre upon their country have received their early education in this noble seminary. There is also a parish school in Canongate, the character of which, and of its masters, ranks very high.

From the High School the attention of the stranger is naturally conducted to the new University, on the western side

of the southern extremity of the South Bridge, whose august but unfinished pile excites sentiments both of admiration and regret. Over the gate is a handsome portico, supported by enormous columns of the Doric order, each of which is formed of one solid mass of stone. The design, by Mr. Robert Adam, appears to have been very grand; but it has proved to be far too costly for the resources of the country. In the infatuation of endeavouring to eclipse the splendour of the English colleges, by the erection of this magnificent pile, the shrewd and economical character of the Scotch, who know so well and so creditably, on all other occasions, to make the ends correspond with the means, seems to have been exchanged for the random and thoughtless generosity of their Irish brethren. With a subscription of thirty-two thousand pounds, they have proceeded thus far to erect a building, the completion of which would require at least one hundred and twenty thousand more, and which, were it completed, would be infinitely too vast for its objects. The builders came to a pause for want of finances: in this dilemma, the bounty of the crown contributed; but all was inadequate. Thus a large sum of money, and much talent, toil, and time, have been consumed, in raising to the sight of the citizens of Edinburgh a pile, which, when tinted by "the mellowing hand of Time," will afford them the melancholy but picturesque effect of a mighty ruin. The building, were it complete, would also lose much of its dignity, by not receding to a

proper distance from the street. At present, the college business is conducted in part of the old and part of the new structure.

From the want of skill and judgment without, it is with pleasure that I turn to the genius and learning within. The exalted character and renown which this university has long obtained renders the eulogium of a stranger unnecessary, if not presuming.

The Senatus Academicus of this celebrated establishment consists of a principal and of a professor in each of the following classes, for the different branches of education :—

The Rev. George H. Baird, D. D. Principal.

LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY.

Classes.	Professors.
Humanity	Mr. Christison.
Greek	Mr. Dunbar.
Mathematics	Mr. Adam Ferguson. Mr. Leslie.
Logic	Dr. Finlayson.
Moral Philosophy and Political Economy	Mr. Stewart.
Natural Philosophy	Mr. Playfair.
Rhetoric and Belles-Letters	Dr. Brown.
Medical Astronomy	Mr. Blair.
Natural History	Mr. Jamieson.

THEOLOGY.

Divinity	Dr. Hunter.
Church History	Dr. Meiklejohn.
Hebrew and Persic	Dr. Moodie.

LAW.	
Civil Law	Mr. Wylde. / Mr. Irvine.
Scots Law	Mr. Hume.
Univ. Civ. Hist.	Mr W. F. Tytler.
Law of Nature and Nations	Mr. Hamilton.
MEDICINE.	
Medicine, Anatomy, and Surgery	Dr. Alexander Monro. / Dr. A. Monro, jun.
Med. and Chemistry	Dr. Hope.
Theory of Physic	Dr. Duncan.
Practice of Physic	Dr. Gregory.
Med. and Botany	Dr. Rutherford.
Med. and Mat. Med.	Dr. James Home
Midwifery	Dr. James Hamilton.
Natural History	Mr. Jameson.
Agriculture	Dr. Coventry.
Military Surgery	Mr. Thomson.
Medical Jurisprudence	Dr. Duncan, jun.

The professors are allowed small salaries: they have no houses or establishments from the university; and no fellowships or livings to look forward to. The fees of the students form the principal sources of their support; and thus, by the unwearied exertions of their talents and learning, the duties of their important stations are efficaciously discharged, and the best interests of the university promoted. The terms for each course of lectures are three guineas. The courses continue during the whole of the session, or from the beginning of November to the end of April in the ensuing year. Dr. Johnson, I believe, prefers this plan of giving a continued course for five months, or more, to the English method

of short terms. The students, contrarily to the practice which obtains in the English colleges, live how and where they please, attend what lectures they choose, have little or no private intercourse with the professors, and are under no collegiate discipline whatever. A parent or guardian would, at first, naturally exclaim against this total absence of discipline; but no indecorum or inconvenience is found to follow. Young men of moderate fortune are not mortified and depressed by being forced into a style of living and extravagance to which their finances are inadequate. By living in the city, they have it in their power to visit amongst genteel families, and to temper the austerity of learning with the amenity of good manners. Young men, in bodies, have been known, many times, to present formidable opposition to scholastic discipline, and even to the police of towns in which their seminaries were placed, which, as individuals, they would not dare to attempt. By being thus dispersed, and left to the guidance of their own discretion, no cause can well arise for such combination, nor would it succeed were it attempted. Upon inquiry, I could hear of no excesses committed by any of the students, which, in the slightest degree, affected their character as a body; and when it is considered that, upon an average, there are not less than fifteen hundred students at the University, the result of the inquiry is not a little favourable to the conduct of those who come from remote parts of the kingdom, to

draw from this great spring of intellect. At all the principal universities upon the Continent, the same mode of treatment, with regard to the students, is adopted.

Many young men come from America, Ireland, and England, and are entered at the university, for the purpose of learning all the branches of education, except those of divinity and law, which, from the peculiar constitution of the Scottish church and Scottish law, are generally confined to the natives of the country. I was informed that the principal reason why English young noblemen do not resort to this university is the extraordinary facility with which, in Scotland, the matrimonial yoke may, by very little stratagem, be imposed upon a young man, the laws upon the subject of marriage being so much more relaxed there than in England.

The Chairs of Church History and Natural History, Law of Nature and Nations, Astronomy and Rhetoric, are in the gift of the crown. The Professor of Agriculture is nominated by Sir William Pultney, the founder. The other professorships are at the disposal of the Town Council of Edinburgh; and much of the celebrity of the university is owing to the incorruptible fidelity and sound discrimination of the magistracy of Edinburgh in supplying the vacant Chairs with gentlemen of distinguished talents in

their respective departments, and by creating new professorships as the interests of society and the progress of human intellect require them.

As a medical school, the University of Edinburgh first obtained that distinction, which, as well as the number of medical students, has ever since been in a progressive state of increase. At this college there are no public disputations; and all degrees are disregarded except that of Doctor of Medicine. Nothing can be more honourable to the Scots than their making the study of the first importance to mankind the principal object of their academic labours and researches. A student, previously to taking out his medical degree, must attend a course of lectures delivered by six of the professors connected with the different branches of medicine; viz. of anatomy, chemistry, materia medica, the practice of physic, physiology, and botany, who are named the Faculty, and at the period of graduation must be examined by them. These examinations, which are in Latin, are conducted with equal strictness and justice. The diploma is the reward of merit alone, wholly separated from the influence of the personal history or connections of the student. The first examination, and the severest, takes place privately at the houses of one or other of the faculty; the rest are conducted publicly in the library of the university. The names of Monro, Hope,

Gregory, and Duncan, are justly celebrated in this department; they do equal honour to their country and to human nature. The Anatomical Theatre, which is in the new part of the college buildings, is spacious and elegant, and well adapted to its purpose; the Dissecting Room is attached to it; but the difficulty of procuring subjects for dissection, I was informed, renders London, as a school of practical anatomy, infinitely superior to Edinburgh.

The lectures delivered on law by Mr. Hume, the nephew of the historian, are spoken of as very able, and are much valued; these, and access to the judicial courts, afford great facilities to the jurisprudential student. In the School of Divinity most of the young men who are destined for the church derive their theological knowledge, and learn the necessary qualifications for procuring reputation with the public. As a school of general literature, the university ranks higher than any other. Upon the highly intellectual department of moral philosophy, a study at once so important to society and so difficult of elucidation, the accomplished endowments, the luminous eloquence, and the classic purity of language of Professor Stewart, have shed a brilliant lustre. Natural philosophy, another branch of general literature, is also much indebted to the scientific powers of Professor Playfair, a gentleman well known to the scientific world for his very elegant and able illustration of the Huttonian theory;

and the mathematical chair is very ably filled by Mr. Leslie, who has also distinguished himself by a very ingenious and learned inquiry into the nature of heat. The other departments of learning are also conducted with great ability by the gentlemen who are respectively at the head of them.

The recent professorship of medical jurisprudence has excited considerable curiosity, principally on account of its having been made a subject of parliamentary comment. Medical jurisprudence has been for some time a subject of academic investigation at Goettingen, Giesen, and Leipsic, in Germany, under the name of juridical or forensic medicine, medecina forensis; also medicinische polizey, or state medicine; and, in France, the subjects connected with it have been systematically discussed in two very ingenious works: "Les Lois éclairées par les Sciences Physiques, par R. E. Foderee;" and "Médicine Legale et Police Medicale, de P. A. O. Makon, Professeur de Medecine Legale, &c. à l'Ecole de Médecine de Paris." Medical jurisprudence, as appears by a brief view of its extent and importance, considered as a branch of education, by its present able professor, Dr. Duncan, jun., comprehends both juridical medicine and medical police, and originated with the code of laws enacted by the Emperor Charles V. under the name of "Constitutio Criminalis Carolina," which ordains that the opinions of physicians should be taken, with regard to wounds, child-murder, poisoning, procured abortion, con-

cealed pregnancy, &c. and which induced some legislators to enjoin that all tribunals and judges should obtain, from sworn physicians, appointed to this office, their opinion upon subjects connected with their studies, in a course of legal investigation; and since that period, many able men have treated the subject with great ability, particularly Dr. Loder, of Jena. How valuable the branch of juridical medicine is, and how necessary, in criminal matters, for judges, juries, and advocates, to have it within their power to avail themselves of such a description of knowledge, will appear from the following matters of inquiry, which occur most frequently in criminal courts.

1. The cause of death, as ascertained from the examination of the body.
2. The sufficiency of the supposed cause to have produced death.
3. Probable event of wounds, contusions, &c.
4. The importance of the part injured.
5. Supposed child-murder, whether still-born or not.
6. Whether death accidental or intended.
7. Abortion; its having occurred, 1, spontaneously, from habit; 2, accidentally, from external violence, or passions of the mind; 3, or intentionally, from the introduction of a sharp instrument, use of certain drugs, &c.
8. Rape; its being attempted or consummated; recent or previous defloration.
9. The state of mind of the accused, so as to make him responsible for his actions.

In civil courts the questions generally regard—

1. The state of mind; madness, melancholy, idiotism.
2. Pregnancy; concealed, pretended.
3. Parturition; concealed, pretended, retarded, premature.
4. The first-born of twins.
5. Diseases concealed; pretended, imputed.
6. Age and duration of life.

Before consistorial courts, the subjects investigated are—

1. Impotence; general, relative, curable, incurable.
2. Sterility; curable, relatively incurable, absolutely incurable.
3. Uncertainty of sex.
4. Diseases preventing cohabitation, leprosy, &c.

Medical police is the application of the principles deduced from the different branches of medical knowledge for the promotion, preservation, and restoration of general health, and as far transcends juridical medicine in importance, as the safety, prosperity, and security of nations, exceed the welfare of individuals. To prevent the introduction of contagious diseases, or to arrest their progress, to preserve and improve health, to supply nutritious and economical food for the poor, to secure to the indigent the advantages intended by their benefactors, to rear the orphan to benefit the country which has adopted him, to regulate the abuses or ignorant treatment of the mad-house, and to mitigate the horrors of the prison, are subjects of impressive consequence to the community, and are the general objects of medical police; and more particularly the following:—

The Situation of Places of Abode—Construction of Houses.
Air.—Means of counteracting its impurity—Its various impregnations.
Water.—Its necessity and purity.
Food.—The various kinds—Comparative quantities of nourishment afforded by them—Cheaper kinds, which may be safely substituted in times of scar-

city—Bread—Animal Food—Butcher's Meat—Fish—Vegetables—Culinary Vessels—Cookery; healthy; economical.

Drink.—Beer—Ale—Porter—Cider—Spirituous Liquors—Wine—Warm Drinks—Adulterations of these Liquors—Hurtful Additions—Vessels.

Fire and Light.

Clothing.

Cleanliness.

Professions.—Men of Letters—Manufacturers—Mechanics—Soldiers—Sailors.

Healthy Propagation.

Pregnant and Puerperal Women.

New-born Infants—Registers of Births.

Physical Education.

Prevention of Accidents.—From Poison—Hurtful Effluvia—Maniacs—Rabid Animals.

Restoration of the apparently Dead.—Humane Societies—Care of the Dying—Danger of too early and too late Burial—Places of Interment—Manner of conducting it—Bills of Mortality.

Contagious and Epidemic Diseases.—Plague—Putrid Fever—Dysentery—Small Pox—Inoculation—Extirpation of them—Leprosy—Itch and Veneral—Precautions to be taken to prevent their introduction, to diminish their violence, to destroy their cause, and to counteract their effects.

Management of Public Institutions, in which many persons are collected together.

Hospitals for the Indigent, viz. Lying-in Hospitals—Foundling ditto—Orphan ditto—Hospitals for Education—Aged—Blind—Maimed.

Military Hospitals.—Prisoners of War—Lazarettoes—Work-houses—Prisons.

Hospitals for the Sick.—Maniacs—Convalescents—Incurable.

Here are also many other highly interesting subjects, which come within the range of medical jurisprudence and police; and their interference may sometimes be advantageously extended beyond the strict limits of their operation.

The importance of the subject was deeply felt by his Ma-

jesty's late ministers, who first considered it, at the recommendation of the Right Hon. Henry Erskine, then Lord Advocate for Scotland; in consequence of which a professor was appointed, with a salary of one hundred pounds per annum, in the person of Dr. Duncan, jun. whose father commenced a private course of about twelve lectures, eight or nine years since, with much ability, but without any appointment or salary.

In our own criminal courts, the value of applying to medical gentlemen, to aid the judge and the jury in their opinion and verdict, in criminal cases, is already felt; and in two recent trials for murder committed upon the highway, at the Old Bailey, which have much excited the interest of the public, two medical gentlemen gave their opinions, upon oath, of the cause of the deaths of the deceased, grounded upon the evidence produced on the part of the crown. This subject has occupied more of my journal than I originally intended, on account of its being so much misconceived, and to many so little known.

The library of the college was founded before the university, by Clement Little, Esq. Advocate, and has been considerably augmented by subsequent donations. It is now a very good and substantial one, and contains a complete collection of medical and classical books. The funds arise,

as I was informed, from fees paid by professors upon taking their chairs, and by students upon their being matriculated. The money paid by medical students is laid out in the purchase of medical books, except that now and then the medical professors will give some of these contributions to the librarian for purchasing other books. The medical students are by far the most numerous. The librarian is paid by the town.

The societies, or clubs, of the students, for their improvement in medicine, natural history, and general literature, are powerful auxiliaries of the college. Their objects are to improve their members in composition and in public speaking. Some of these associations have been formed for many years, and have had for their members men who have afterwards shone with great merit and distinction in life. Amongst them, the Royal Society of Edinburgh, erected into a corporate body in 1783, is entitled to precedence. The discoveries, writings, experiments, and observations of this learned body, are well known to the world, and confer great honour upon their respective authors.

CHAP. VII.

THE MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETIES—THE SPECULATIVE SOCIETY—CONTROVERSIAL SPIRIT AMONGST THE PROFESSORS—THE BOTANIC GARDEN—LEITH WALK—FLESHERS—LEITH—THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL—SAIL TO INCHKEITH—HOW FORMERLY APPLIED—THE BELL ROCK—THE TRADE OF LEITH—ITS SHIPPING—FRENCH WOMEN—ANECDOTE OF SIR HUGH PALLISER—DISTILLERIES—EFFECTS OF ALE AND WHISKY CONTRASTED—SCOTTISH CARRIAGES—STAGE COACHES—HERIOT'S HOSPITAL—THE CHARITY WORK-HOUSE—INSTITUTION FOR THE RELIEF OF THE BLIND—ANECDOTE OF A BLIND MAN.

AMONGST the many literary institutions of Edinburgh, the Medical and Physical Societies deserve to be mentioned, particularly the former, which is attended not only by students, but by many respectable inhabitants of the town. At their meetings, essays, composed by the members, are read, and subjects are frequently discussed with much spirit and eloquence.

The Speculative Society was instituted in 1764, for improvement in composition and public speaking, in metaphysics, political economy, jurisprudence, and the belles-lettres. The reputation of this association is next in rank

to that of the Medical Society. Many of the members maintain a high character in the political and literary world. There is also the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, projected in 1780, composed of noblemen and gentlemen, to whom the antiquities of their native country are interesting, and which form the objects of their investigation: a volume of their transactions was published in 1792.

In the Natural History Society also, established in 1782, the members have obtained considerable reputation in branches of those sciences which form the objects of their investigation. The meetings of those societies are in general weekly; and the subjects discussed afford constant exercise and expansion to the intellect of the student, which enable him, with increased facility, to profit by the lectures which he has selected for his attention, and frequently to sit in judgment upon their merits. These sources of information are also considerably increased by the natural effect of the high controversial spirit which reigns amongst the professors themselves, and the physicians and surgeons of Edinburgh, who are generally engaged in literary warfare.

In my way to Leith, about a mile and a half from Edinburgh, I saw the Botanic Garden, which stands about midway between the city and that port-town, and supported, as I was informed, by Government. This garden covers about

five English acres, has a green-house and hot-houses for exotics, and contains a variety of curious plants, arranged after the Linnæan system, and also a monumental vase, erected in honour of Linnæus by the late Dr. Hope, with this plain inscription:—

LINNÆO POSUIT
IO. HOPE.
1779.

Botanic lectures are given here by Dr. Rutherford, from the 1st of May to the 1st of July, annually.

The walk to Leith is very agreeable, and generally a scene of much bustle, the interest of which is not a little increased by the number of fine women walking from one town to the other, and the many handsome equipages passing and repassing. Leith is to Edinburgh what Dock is to Plymouth, or Scheveling to the Hague, in Holland. The entrance to Leith, and the streets of Leith in general, are narrow and dirty. In this town I observed, for the first time, that butchers are called *fleshers*. It is divided into two parts by the water of Leith, called the North and South Leith. It is a tide harbour; and at low water the sands are very extensive, and highly inconvenient to the shipping, and particularly to the passage-boats which sail from this port to Kinghorn, in Fife. The magistrates of Edinburgh have done much to correct the great difficulties

which Nature has placed in the way of this harbour, by having erected a stone pier at a great expense, a stone quay on the west side, and some wet and dry docks. These, however, being found insufficient for the great increase of the trade and shipping of this port, a new stone pier was laid in 1801, a little to the westward of the former, connected with which, new wet and dry docks, and an extensive range of warehouses, are forming, which will greatly improve the port. I was much struck with the elegant appearance of the Grammar School, which stands on the south-west part of the Links, or Downs, of Leith. It is a very recent structure, the expense of which was defrayed by public subscription; it was begun in 1805, and is just finished. The rooms for the different classes are large and handsome. I had the good fortune of being there at a public examination: I witnessed the examination of the female classes only, which was singularly interesting. Some magistrates and clergymen, and a great number of the friends of the children, were present; and the whole presented a spectacle at once gratifying to the eye and heart. The young ladies (for, though thus publicly educated, they had the appearance of great respectability) were carefully and strictly examined, in the presencc of this crowded assembly, in the various branches of learning in which they had been instructed; and their answers were such as deservedly gave great gratification to all present, and indeed frequently seemed sur-

prisingly quick and able. This exhibition, as well as many other institutions similar to this school, which I before and afterwards met with in Scotland, displayed the noble anxiety which the Scottish people have of diffusing knowledge over every part of their country.

The Bank in South Leith is a small but handsome building, just finished; and the Assembly Rooms, I was told, are handsomely fitted up, and that concerts are occasionally performed in them in the winter. There is, as may be supposed, some little spirit of jealousy and rivalry on the part of the people of Leith, with respect to their own diversions, as compared with similar recreations in the great city. In the south and east parts of the town there are many handsome private houses, belonging to the bankers and merchants, and higher classes of tradesmen; and the society, I am well informed, is very genteel. The fresh water of this town is very bad. A sort of infatuation induces the inhabitants to submit to drink it, when, I am informed, they can be supplied with excellent water about a quarter of a mile from the place where they procure the bad, which possesses the quality of corroding lead, but not solder.

Some friends accompanied me on board the Texel, commanded by the Port-Admiral, Rear-Admiral Vashon, then lying in the Roads, where we had some refreshment, and

afterwards set off for Inchkeith, in a Norway yawl, the Admiral not being able to spare more hands than would man such a vessel, on account of a great and unexpected press which had taken place the night before; and indeed the ship was crowded with the fruits of this unpleasant service. This boat was built in Norway; and, although very small and low, it will, from its peculiar construction, weather out seas in which a much larger ship's boat would upset.

The island is an elevated rock, covered in many places with fine earth, standing in the middle of the Forth. We entered a small bay, protected by a low pier, lately erected; and, after passing over a good road, recently cut, by a tank or great well, for supplying shipping with water, which was locked up, (the key of which is lodged with the people who keep the Light-House,) we reached the Light-House. We were much pleased with the elegant and handsome appearance of that building, which crowns the lofty summit of the island, and is admirably constructed, and answerable to its purpose in every way. It was built, as appeared by an inscription over the door, on the 18th May, 1803, and lighted on the 1st September, 1804. From the top there is an exquisite view of the city, the sea, its islands, and the shore on either side.

As we ascended, we all thought of the *great* Johnson,

who is reported by Boswell to have stalked like a giant amongst the thistles and nettles, and examined every part of this place with great attention. Brantome calls it L'Isle des Chevaux. It appears that, in the year 1497, it was allotted for the reception of those who had a certain disorder, of Spanish origin, which was regarded as a species of plague amongst the ancient good folks of Edinburgh, to whom the Privy Council sent a letter, in which, in the following curious specimen of ancient orthography, they ordered, "that all manner of personis, being within the fredome of this burgh, guhilk are infectit, or has bene infectit, and uncurit of this said contagious plage, callit the grand gore, devoyd, red, and pass furth of this toun and compeir, upoun the sandis of Leith, at ten houris before none, and thair sall have and fynd botis reddie in the havin, ordanit to thame be the officaris of this burgh, reddelie furneist with victualls to have them to the Inch, and thair to remain quhill God provyde for their health." It is now employed to a much better purpose, and is a most delightful and healthy spot; it has some good pasture upon it, but no trees. This island anciently belonged to the noble family of Keith, but afterwards became forfeited to the crown, in consequence of the head of the family having joined the rebellion in 1715. The Bell Rock, which stands about 12 miles south-east of Arbroath, has been long known for the number of horrible shipwrecks and disasters which it has occa-

sioned. These dreadful accidents are soon likely to be diminished, if not wholly prevented. A noble light-house, with revolving reflectors and bells, in case of foggy weather, under the direction of the ingenious Mr. Simpson, is about to be erected upon that dangerous island.

Owing to contrary winds, and those squalls to which the Forth is at times terribly exposed, we had some difficulty in regaining the ship.

I had the pleasure of dining with Mr. Oliphant, the collector of the customs of the port of Leith, in whose house are several pictures, a few of which appeared to be by the first masters.

The absence of those manufactures, in this part of the country, which are most wanted by outward-bound vessels with cargoes, must unavoidably be a great check to the trade of Leith. However, ship-building has increased, and consequently there has been a greater demand for ropes and cordage, manufactures for which have been established at Leith, and are in a flourishing condition. Indeed ship-building appears to be now carried to a considerable extent in Scotland. By the last return to parliament it appears, that between the 5th January, 1806, and the 5th January, 1807, 94 ships have been built, the tonnage of which is 9,732.

The trade of Leith chiefly consists of timber, tar, and iron, from the Baltic; flax and flax-seed, from Holland; wines and spirits, from Portugal and the Mediterranean; apples, from England; and a few vessels trade to the West-Indies, and return with valuable cargoes of rum and sugar. From the present system of blockade of the British ports, as it has been whimsically called, the trade of Leith must inevitably experience some temporary embarrassments; but when a more civilized order of things is established, when the superb docks now constructing are finished, and the spirit of manufacture has more widely diffused itself in the neighbourhood, no doubt the trade of Leith will greatly increase, and render it worthy of being the port of the Caledonian capital.

The following account of the present state of the foreign, coasting, and fishing trade of Leith, may prove not uninteresting to several readers.

Account of the total number of vessels of or belonging to the port of Leith, their tonnage and number of men, trading to and from foreign ports; also the like amount of coasting and fishing vessels, for the year ending 5th Jan. 1807.

	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Foreign Trade	82	14,876	752
Coasting Trade	83	5,323	373
Fishing Trade	7	2,253	274
	172	22,452	1,399

Account of the total number of British and foreign vessels trading at the port of Leith, their tonnage and number of men, during the year ending 5th Jan. 1807.

INWARDS.

	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
British	211	30,279	1,775
Foreign	129	15,534	993
	340	45,813	2,768

OUTWARDS.

	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
British	139	19,597	1,450
Foreign	109	13,348	837
	248	32,945	2,287

The shore-dues at Leith (a small tax paid to the city of Edinburgh, on landing goods at the quay) have, within the last twenty years, increased nearly as one to ten, without any increase of rate; a decisive proof of the flourishing trade of this place since the time when Dr. Johnson visited it, and observed of the pier, or quay; "You have no occasion for so large a one; your trade does not require it: but you are like a shopkeeper, who takes a shop not only for what he has put into it, but that it may be believed he has a great deal to put into it."

In this port a curious circumstance occurred, many years since, to which, it is said, the Scotch owe their prevention from indulging in claret, and other French wines,

as much as they used to do formerly. After the Treaty of the Union and the Methven Treaty with Portugal, which produced a preference to the Portuguese wines in Britain, the French wines were subjected to double duties; but the British ministry, on account of the poverty of Scotland, and also from a prudent policy of not hastily infringing upon long-established national habits, by some connivance did not exact the duty in a country where every person in tolerable circumstances was accustomed to drink the wines of France.

In the year 1754, when Sir Hugh Palliser was Captain of the Seahorse man of war, lying in the roads of Leith, a person, under indentures of apprenticeship, having entered as a seaman on board of Capt. Palliser's ship, was reclaimed by his master, but refused by the commander; in consequence of which, Judge Philp granted a warrant to bring the man on shore, with which a messenger was dispatched; but Capt. Palliser, under an impression that he was answerable only to the Lords of the Admiralty for his conduct, persisted in refusing to deliver the man up. The Judge, in consequence, issued another warrant to apprehend the Captain himself; which, upon his coming on shore, was executed, and he was committed to prison. Upon his refusing to acknowledge the jurisdiction of the court, he was again remanded to his former place of confinement for six weeks, until the apprentice

was released. Upon this spirited conduct of Judge Philp, who was a man of remarkably mild manners, Lord Hardwicke, then Lord Chancellor, remarked, " that he was a bold judge who had done this, but what he had done was right." Sir Hugh, however, upon his return to England, represented Scotland to be in a very thriving condition, and perfectly competent to pay the duties upon French wines; and threatened, if they were not duly exacted, to make the frauds committed upon the revenues by connivance of Government a subject of parliamentary investigation. This representation and threat, acting upon the usual ministerial appetite for money, produced an order to the collectors of the customs to levy the duty upon French wines in Scotland.

I neither saw here, nor in all Edinburgh, except amongst some Highland soldiers, any appearance of the tartan. I visited Leith several times, and had the opportunity of observing an extensive pile of building in one direction leading to that town, which has been built for the distillation of ardent spirit from grain, which the Scottish distillers, from their knowledge and great practical observation, have carried to higher perfection than any other country. There are also other great distilleries in the vicinity of the city. The astonishing rapidity of process to which the Scottish distillers have attained, the following extract from the Earl of Lauderdale's " Inquiry into the Nature and Origin of Public

Wealth" will prove:—"In the year 1785, a proposal was made to collect the duty on the manufacture of spirits in Scotland, by way of license, to be paid annually for every still according to its size, at a fixed rate per gallon, in lieu of all other duties. The London distillers, men the most experienced in their profession, who agreed to the rate of the license on the gallon, supposed to be equivalent to the former duties, declared themselves, from experience, satisfied that the time for working stills with benefit was limited to an extent perfectly well known; and that whoever exceeded these limits would infallibly lose upon his materials, and the quality of the goods, what he gained in point of time; and in conformity to their opinion, the duty was, in the year 1786, *settled* upon the supposition that stills could be discharged about *seven times a week.*"

Two years after this, in a memorial presented to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, the same men alleged that the Scottish distillers had, by the ingenuity of their contrivances, found means to discharge their stills upwards of *forty* times a *week*: and we since know, from a Report made to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, in the year 1799, that a forty-three-gallon still was brought to such a degree of perfection as to be discharged at the rate of once in two minutes and three quarters, which is *almost twenty-two times in an hour*. It appears, from this Report, that the operation of distillation was capable of being per-

formed in a still shorter time; and that the quality of the spirit was no wise injured by the rapidity of the operation."

The ingenuity of the Scotch could not be applied to the improvement of an art more pernicious and deleterious, and of one which presents, in a moral and physical point of view, a more shocking and efficacious check to the improvement of the lower classes of the people. The different effects of whisky and ale upon the soldiers of militia regiments have frequently been observed. Whisky generally produces anger with intoxication; but ale as generally good humour. However, I saw but few instances, during my stay in Edinburgh, of any one who might be considered as *foo*, or full. The low Scotch say, when they have made a man tipsy, "I filled him drunk." Happy would it be could these manufacturers of public poison be every where checked, and breweries of wholesome ale encouraged in their room: if the duty on spirits was increased, and that on malt liquor reduced, much might be hoped.

Upon my return from Leith, I could not help stopping and admiring a very handsome display of Scottish carriages, at a coach-builder's, of the name of Crichton, a person of great respectability and ingenuity, a Lieutenant-Colonel of a battalion of volunteers, and the inventor of a machine for the speedy conveyance of troops, and the easy carriages for

wounded soldiers. This house is near the city, the approach to which, in this direction, is very beautiful. The carriages appeared to be extremely well built, and to unite lightness to elegance; and were more than one-third cheaper than in England. Many of them are exported to the West Indies; and before the blockade there was a great demand for them in the north of Europe.

The subject naturally leads to a concise comparative view of the introduction of coaches into Scotland, and the number of stage and hackney coaches belonging to Edinburgh. The first mention of a coach coming to Scotland was in 1598, in the suite of the English Ambassador, and they since became general in 1610. At that period, Henry Anderson, of Stralsund, in Pomerania, offered to bring coaches and waggons, with horses to draw, and servants to attend them, provided he had the exclusive privilege of keeping these carriages, which was accordingly secured to him by a royal patent for fifteen years; during which he run coaches between Edinburgh and Leith, at a fare of 2d. each person. In 1705, upon the approach of the King's Commissioner to Edinburgh, he was met eight miles from the city by a train of forty coaches, most of which were drawn by six horses. In 1763, two stage-coaches, with three horses, a coachman, and postillion, to each coach, ran to and from Leith, and went every hour from eight in the morning till eight at night, consuming a *full hour* on

the road, in travelling a distance of, as I have mentioned, only one mile and a half. At this time there were no other stage-coaches in Scotland except one, which set out once a month for London, in performing which, a distance of 400 miles, it was *sixteen or eighteen days;* although, now, any one setting out on a Sunday afternoon from Edinburgh to London may remain a whole day there, and be back in Edinburgh on the Saturday following at six o'clock. There were last year 6 coaches, which ran every hour to Leith; to Newhaven, 1; to Musselburgh, 4; to and from Dalkeith, 3; to and from Prestonpans, 1; to Haddington, 2; and to Haddington and Dunbar, 1; to Aberdeen, 1, a mail-coach; to Aberdeen and Perth, 1; to Glasgow, 5; to Lanark, 1; to and from Queensferry, 2; to Stirling, 3; to Dumfries, 2; to Carlisle, 1; to Kelso, 2; to Peebles, 1, a caravan; to and from Linlithgow and Falkirk, 1; to Jedburgh, 1; to London, 3, a mail and two coaches: in all, forty-two stage-coaches, of different descriptions, most of which go every day. When passengers take their place, they have a ticket, with the number of their seat, according to their priority of application, to prevent any dispute. The same regulation obtains in France, at the Bureaus des Diligences *.

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* Since writing the above statement of the stage-coach establishment in Edinburgh, I have been favoured with the following account of the mail-coaches in Scotland at present.

From Edinburgh.—One to Berwick, York, and London—One to Perth, and one to Aberdeen—One to Stirling—One to Glasgow—One to Dumfries,

In 1787 there were only 8 hackney-coaches; there are now 86, and most of them preferable to our's in London. Amongst them are included hack-chaises, which are extremely convenient for making excursions to the vicinity. The private carriages built in Edinburgh, of which there are many, are very handsome; and, with the cabinet and upholstery work, as well as with every other art conducive to comfort and luxury which is carried on in Edinburgh, exhibit convincing proofs of the high state of excellence to which they have attained.

Heriot's Hospital, which stands in the southern district of the city, on the rising ground opposite the Castle-hill, is well worthy of notice, as the most distinguished amongst the charitable institutions of Edinburgh. It is a noble monument of the splendid munificence of a person whose name it bears, the jeweller to James VI., a man who, with a fair character, died worth 50,000*l.*, a most immense sum in those days; out of which (leaving no issue) he bequeathed a large sum to the town council and ministers of Edinburgh, for building and endowing an hospital for the maintenance and education

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from thence to Portpatrick—One to Carlisle by Hawick, from thence to Liverpool—And a mail-diligence to Peebles—Ditto to Musselburgh.

From Glasgow.—One to Ayr—One to Greenock, through Paisley and Port Glasgow—One to Carlisle, and on to London.

From Carlisle.—One to Portpatrick, and through Dumfries.

of indigent and fatherless children, the sons of burgesses of that city. Heriot not having been paid for the jewels, with which he supplied Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I., when he went to the court of Spain in 1623, upon his ascending the throne, the debt was allowed to the trustees of Heriot, in part of their purchase-money of the barony of Broughton, consisting then of crown lands in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, and which lands form now part of the foundation of this hospital. The house was commenced in 1628, but owing to the civil wars, and other causes, was not finished till 1660. It is after a design of Inigo Jones, and is considered a fine specimen of Gothic architecture. Cromwell and Monk, at different times, quartered their sick soldiers in it. It now receives about 130 boys, who are instructed in English, Latin, and French, writing and arithmetic. When a boy leaves the hospital he is entitled to 25*l.* sterling, and 5*l.* more on the expiration of his apprenticeship. Many of the leases granted by the trustees of this hospital will soon expire, when the revenues of this princely foundation will be greatly increased, and when, unlike the scandalous conduct observed under similar circumstances of increase by the governors and trustees of certain nobly-endowed charitable institutions in England, it is the determination of the trustees of Heriot's Hospital to follow up the intentions of the munificent founder, by taking as many more boys "as the sum should be sufficient for." The other department of this establishment is well managed.

In the neighbourhood of Heriot's Hospital is the Charity Workhouse, for the support of the aged and infirm poor. It was established in 1742. I was informed that it contained about 700 persons, of both sexes, including children, when I visited it. Its funds arise from a tax of two per cent. on the valued rents of the city, collections at the church doors, charitable donations, and voluntary contributions; and there are two other workhouses nearly upon the same plan, which I did not visit. In these establishments the Scotch have departed from their accustomed mode of supporting their poor, by relieving them in the bosom of their own families, as afterwards noticed, and I could not help thinking the departure an unwise one. The poor thus aggregated together are never so clean or so comfortable as when the hand of Charity reaches them in their own homes; more objects of pity may be there maintained, because the expense of a costly establishment is avoided, and the cases of those who are entitled to relief may be more accurately investigated. However, subject to these remarks, the internal arrangements and regulations bespoke much care and humanity.

I was much pleased with the Institution for the Relief of the indigent and industrious Blind. This establishment is very well conducted. The objects of it are taught to make baskets, foot-mats, &c. They are not boarded in the

house, but have a weekly allowance, in proportion to their earnings. Seven persons, who have been instructed here, have commenced business on their own account with considerable success. Their skill and quickness are truly surprising. I have long regarded the blind as objects more entitled to our care than to our commiseration. If we contrast the almost invariably happy gaiety of their temper with the ennui which so often depresses those to whom nature has imparted the power of sight, I think the latter are in general more deserving of the compassion of the former. I remember being once much struck with the pleasantry of a blind man upon his own infirmity: he was a petty coal-merchant, and managed his concerns with uncommon punctuality. Upon a bill being tendered to him for payment, he asked how it was drawn. The holder of it replied, "that it was drawn upon him at ten days *after sight*."—"Oh, then," said he, laughing heartily, "my good Sir, you can never expect me to pay it, for do you not perceive that I am *stone blind*?"

CHAP. VIII.

THE MARKETS OF EDINBURGH—ROSES AND STRAWBERRIES—ANECDOTE OF ABUNDANCE—JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENT—THE COURT OF SESSION—REMARKS UPON THE JUDGES—THE COURT OF JUSTICIARY—THE CIRCUIT COURT—THE COURT OF EXCHEQUER—THE FACULTY OF ADVOCATES—WRITERS TO THE SIGNET—THE COLLEGE OF JUSTICE—SCOTTISH LAWYERS DISTINGUISHED FOR THEIR GENIUS AND LEARNING—THE ADVOCATES' LIBRARY—THE PARLIAMENT-HOUSE—THE TOLBOOTH—ANECDOTE—PRIVILEGE OF THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIONER—ROYAL FAREWELL—MORTUARY MONUMENTS FEW AND BAD—THE SCOTTISH CHURCH—ANECDOTE OF JOHN KNOX—THE ORGAN—WHISTLING KIRKS—WHIMSICAL SPIRITUAL SONGS—JEWS—CATHOLICS.

THE markets of Edinburgh, which are situated on a descending terrace on the north side of the High-street, are abundantly supplied with fish, flesh, and fowl. The vegetables are peculiarly excellent. A sea-weed, called dulse, which grows on the rocks on the coast near Edinburgh, and which is used by the farmers for manure, without undergoing the least preparation, is much eaten and relished by the poor people, to whom a large handful is sold for a penny. The dulse, the water, and the salt sellers, (the latter being women who carry the article about in creels or baskets,) are

amongst the petty venders who most arrest the attention of a stranger in the streets. In a most abundant supply of roses and strawberries, Edinburgh much resembles Paris: the latter are brought (in baskets which hold a Scottish pint) by carts to market; and it is estimated that upwards of 100,000 Scottish, or 400,000 English pints, are annually sold, during the season, in Edinburgh and the environs. The fruit-market is held in the centre of the city, in stalls arranged round the Trone Church. Wall and hot-house fruit are sold in the pastry-shops. Upon the whole, the fruit of Scotland, with the exception of gooseberries and strawberries, is far inferior to that of the south.

Although the markets are so abundantly supplied, the articles for sale are far from being set out with that neatness and order, and strong temptation to purchase, so much noticed and valued in the English markets. It is recorded, as a proof of the uncommon fertility of the surrounding country, that in 1781, when Admiral Parker's fleet, and a Jamaica fleet, consisting together of 15 sail of the line, 9 frigates, and about 600 merchantmen, and having on board about 20,000 men, lay nearly two months in Leith Roads, they were well supplied with every species of provision without raising the markets; and the crews of the Jamaica fleet, who were very scorbutic, were restored to health by the plentiful supplies of strawberries and fresh vegetables which the Edinburgh markets afforded.

I was unfortunate in not being in Edinburgh a little longer before the commencement of the summer vacation. I lost much intellectual gratification by not having it in my power to witness the distinguished talents of the Scottish pleaders. However, I had an opportunity of attending the trial of a young man for a felony, before the Court of Justiciary, and was much struck with the dignity and impressive conduct of the court and of the proceedings. The prisoner was not in irons, but was guarded by two attendants of the court. In a similar manner, in France, the criminals are always conducted to the tribunal by two gens d'armes, without irons. In England they are seldom or never put upon their trial without them.

A very brief account of the great judicial establishments of Scotland, now that they are expected to undergo a material change, may not be uninteresting to the reader who has neither leisure nor inclination to take an elaborate view of them. They are composed of a civil, a criminal, and a revenue, or exchequer court. The supreme civil court is the Court of Session, or the Lords of Council and Session, established in 1522, after the model of the ancient French parliaments. The judges of this court are *fifteen* in number, who are generally selected from the Faculty of Advocates; but persons from the Society of Writers to the Signet, the first class of agents who conduct causes without being pleaders, may also be chosen to this high office, under

certain regulations. In this court, all civil actions, and (there being no Court of Chancery) all matters of equity, are determined. It also is a Court of Appeal for inferior tribunals, subject to a final review of the House of Lords. One of the judges, in rotation, called the Lord Ordinary during the exercise of the office, sits in the room in which the parliament formerly assembled, two days in the week, for the dispatch of summary causes. In the Court of Session the judges are also the jury. Most of the proceedings are carried on in printed pleadings, in which refined logic and noble specimens of composition are frequently displayed. Sometimes a hearing in presence is ordered, when barristers argue, *vivâ voce*, the pleas of their clients. As the judges have a double duty to perform, for want of a separate jury, they take peculiar pains with their decisions, which renders procrastination inevitable; but justice is in general fairly and satisfactorily administered, and their decisions are not very often reversed upon an appeal to the British parliament. The number of the judges has been much objected to, on account of their being likely to be unduly swayed in favour of their patrons, in matters coming judicially before them, where their interests may clash with those of other individuals before the court; of the difficulty of procuring so many persons adequately learned in the laws; and, finally, of the occasional warmth and irritability with which they, in open court, defend their respective opinions

when they differ from each other, in a manner sometimes derogatory to the dignity of the judicial character. The judges hold their situation for life. Their salaries are not suitable to their rank, and the laborious duties of their office. That of the President is 3,000*l.* and those of the other judges 1,280*l.* per annum. Such of them as belong to the criminal court have a further salary. Their official dress consists of a purple robe, turned up with crimson velvet. They are preceded by four maces, take precedence next to the sons of Earls, and rank as the *first gentlemen* in Scotland. Although they are addressed as Lords, their wives do not participate in the title.

The supreme criminal court is called the Court of Justiciary. It is composed of a Lord Justice General, always a Peer of high distinction, who seldom attends; a Lord Justice Clerk; and five Commissioners, who are Lords of Session. The judges of this court go on circuits, in different parts of the kingdom, twice a year, during the recess of the Court of Session, where they exercise a civil jurisdiction. One judge can hold a circuit court. The causes which come before this court are tried by a *jury of fifteen*; a *majority* of whom most wisely decide. Their verdict is given in writing. The prosecutions are conducted by the Lord Advocate, the Solicitor-General, and the agent for the crown. There is no appeal from this court in criminal matters. In every case a criminal is allowed the assistance of counsel, who,

besides examining and cross-examining, are entitled to address the jury, on behalf of their clients, after the counsel for the prosecution have finished. There is much in the constitution of this court to excite admiration. I have been informed that the French mean to adopt many of its principles, in ameliorating the present state of their criminal courts. The costume of the judges of this court is a scarlet robe, turned up with white satin; and they are preceded by silver maces. The Lord Justice Clerk has 1,200*l.* and the commissioners, or minor judges, 500*l.* each per annum.

The Court of Exchequer is composed of five judges, one of whom is the President, with the title of Lord Chief Baron, and four ordinary Barons. All revenue causes are tried before them, and are decided by a *jury of twelve*; the only court in which civil matters are tried by a jury. The Lord Chief Baron has 3,000*l.*, one Baron 1,780*l.*, and the other three Barons 1,280*l.* per annum each.

The Faculty of Advocates is a society of lawyers, corresponding in some degree with the English Inns of Court. Persons admitted as advocates must have gone through a regular course of civil and Scottish law; and must have been examined, in public and private, by a committee of the body. Every advocate, on his admission, pays 150*l.* to the society, part of which is applied to support the library

belonging to the faculty, which I shall have occasion to mention afterwards. The Faculty of Advocates is under the controlling authority of the Judges of the Court of Session. Many illustrious characters have at various periods belonged to this distinguished association.

The Writers to the Signet practise as attornies in the Courts of Session and Justiciary. Before any one is admitted into the Society of Clerks to his Majesty's Signet, he must have attended the university two years, and have served five years as an apprentice to one of its members. He must also pay 100*l.* as an apprentice fee, 10*l.* to the library belonging to the institution, and 100*l.* when admitted a member. By these salutary provisions, the profession of the law is highly respectable in Scotland; and few, if any, practitioners, who are disposed to avail themselves in the most dishonourable manner of the confidence of their clients, can be admitted within its pale. All the members of the courts mentioned, and the practitioners, form an incorporation, called the College of Justice, who are entitled to many valuable privileges and exemptions.

In their criminal courts the Scotch hold out to us an example well worthy of adoption: an advocate is permitted to *plead for the prisoner*; and the individual who prosecutes, already a sufferer, is indemnified for the costs of the trial.

The following is a highly solemn form of oath, as administered in the Consistorial, or Commissary, Court. The witness kneels on his right knee, and, placing his right hand upon one of the Holy Evangelists, pronounces these words after the judge: "I renounce all the blessings contained in "this holy book if I do not tell the truth; and may all the "curses therein contained be my portion if I do not tell "the truth. I swear by Almighty God, and as I shall an-"swer to him at the great day of judgment, I will tell the "truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," &c. All crimes that occur within the city and liberties of Edinburgh are cognizable by the magistrates of the city, in their *Criminal Court*, where the magistrates have a right to inflict arbitrary punishments, and the Lord Provost has the power of inflicting death in certain cases. But this jurisdiction is not now exercised, all capital crimes coming before them being referred to the supreme courts.

Not having had an opportunity of paying a due proportion of attention to the administration of justice, in this its supreme residence, I should deem it arrogant to offer an opinion upon a subject which I heard much discussed in various parties which I visited, and which has excited great public sensation in Scotland,—the proposed change in its courts of justice, and the introduction of a jury in civil cases.

The most distinguished advocate at the Scottish bar is the Right Honourable Henry Erskine, a gentleman of great learning, wit, and eloquence, and brother to the late Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, who, upon his elevation to that high and dignified office, carried with him the affection and admiration of every gentleman at the British bar, where it was his invariable practice to encourage and support, under the shelter of his exalted talents, the early efforts of the young barrister, although opposed to the cause which he advocated. The Scottish bar has to boast of the talents and reputation of many other distinguished men.

In Scotland the love of letters and literary eminence is so predominant, that, as with the Irish, they reign over, soften, and embellish, the duties of almost every public department, particularly the judicial one, and that of the law in general. Amongst recent instances of this observation may be adduced the Life of Lord Kaimes, by Lord Woodhouselee; the able and learned work of Forsyth, on the Principles of Moral Science; &c. The celebrity of the Lay of the Last Minstrel is too extensively known, and too justly appreciated, to derive any additional force from the homage of an humble admirer of genius. From the author of this exquisite poem I experienced much civility

during my stay in the capital; and had the gratification of finding, that, to the lustre of extraordinary talents, Mr. Walter Scott unites the attractive charms of unassuming diffidence and refined good breeding; that the powers of the poet and the learning of the scholiast were only equalled by his admirable qualities as a husband and a father. The author of The Sabbath has also too much affected the feelings and improved the hearts of his readers, not to be entitled to admiration. These gentlemen, and many others of great literary distinction, are all connected with the law.

The Advocates' Library occupies the ground floor of the Parliament-house, which is under ground. The rooms are dark and gloomy, and far from being suitable depositories of a library of such distinguished celebrity. Drummond, of Hawthornden, contributed to it; and the celebrated Hume was its librarian. It consists of between sixty and seventy thousand volumes, which are lent out in any number to a member of the faculty, upon his receipt, and undertaking to restore them at the end of the year. In this learned depository are many precious manuscripts, illuminated missals, and records and papers relating to Scottish history; and a fine collection of Grecian, Roman, Saxon, English, and Scottish coins and medals. This library is considered to be equal

to the Bodleian, at Oxford, and the National Library, at Paris; and is inferior to none in Europe, except the Vatican.

The Parliament-house occupies the south and west angles of the square to which it gives its name. The Courts of Session and Justiciary sit here: it also contains the great room in which the parliament of Scotland formerly assembled; it is 122 feet long, by 49 broad. In the east wall is a fine marble statue, by Roubilliac, of the Lord President Forbes, in his robes, erected by the Faculty of Advocates. The attitude and expression of this statue are wonderfully fine, and well worthy the notice of the visitor. In the Parliament-close adjoining is an equestrian statue of Charles II. in which there is much spirit; it was placed here after the Restoration, by the magistrates, instead of one which they were preparing to erect in honour of Oliver Cromwell.

I was much surprised, in a city so noble, and embellished with so many institutions which do honour to humanity, as Edinburgh, to find the metropolitan prison for criminals and debtors, called the Tolbooth, so deplorably bad, and so unanswerable to its destination. My surprise was increased upon learning that it was built by the citizens in 1561, not merely for a place of confinement, but for the *accommodation of the parliament and courts of justice.* I visited every part of it, and saw nothing in it but to con-

demn, except the cleanliness displayed in many of the miserable cells, by the prisoners of both sexes. It stands in, or rather encumbers and disfigures, the middle of the High-street, towards the western extremity of it; a platform and gallery project from the north side, upon which criminals doomed to die suffer the sentence of the law, and are suspended as in England. Executions at Edinburgh are very rare. Old Lord Chief-Justice Fortescue used to assign a curious reason for the law inflicting death more frequently in England than in other countries: "More men are hanged in Englande in one year than in France in seven, because the English have better *hartes*; the Scotchmen likewise never *dare rob*, but only commit larcenies."

In 1804 and 1805, only two capital punishments were inflicted in Edinburgh; in 1806, none; in 1807, four criminals suffered death; and up to February, 1808, only one. Of these malefactors, only three belonged to the Edinburgh district. A curious custom once existed in this city, with regard to the public executioner. On every market day, he was authorised to go through the market with a brass ladle, or wooden spoon, and to fill it from every sack of meal, corn, &c. Early in the last century, the magistrates, upon the succession of a new hangman to office, compromised this singular custom, which had rather too strong a resemblance to robbery, for a pecuniary compensation.

The magistrates, I am informed, have, for some time past, intended to pull this aged, heavy, and dreary pile, down; and to erect a prison more worthy of such a city; and they cannot carry their plan into execution too speedily. There is another, a much smaller, but equally objectionable prison, which I visited, called the Canongate Tolbooth.

Close to the first tolbooth is St. Giles's Church, a large Gothic fabric, half concealed by several adjoining buildings, and is well worthy of attention. The tower is 161 feet high, the summit of which is composed of four arches, intersecting each other, and at a distance resembles an imperial crown. In this church James I. addressed his people, on the Sunday preceding his departure to take possession of the English throne. After the service was over, the King rose up, and made a very affecting address to his auditors, who were moved to tears by the expressions of his regard for them, and assurances of frequently revisiting them, and, at all times, of shewing them proofs of his princely favour and regard.

When this church was founded is not known, but it was erected into a collegiate church by James III. in 1466; and soon after the Reformation it was divided into *four* separate places of worship, called the New Church, which is the principal division, in which the General Assembly holds its annual meetings, and the commissioner of which, as the representative of majesty, is seated in a chair of state, under a

canopy, during the sittings. The other divisions are the Old Church, the Tolbooth Church, and Haddow's-hole Church, in the interior of which there is nothing to notice. The cemetery of St. Giles was on the site of Parliament-square, and is memorable for containing the remains of John Knox. In the body of the church the good Regent Murray was buried, who was shot at Linlithgow, by Hamilton; and here also are the ashes of the heroic and magnanimous Marquis of Montrose, who, in a time of turbulence, perished by the hands of the remorseless Covenanters; as well as those of the celebrated Napier, the immortal inventor of logarithms. In the tower are some musical bells, which are played upon, as in Holland, every day, for an hour (Sundays excepted). This venerable pile has not participated in that laudable spirit of improvement which so strikingly prevails in Edinburgh. It is sadly disfigured by the petty buildings which are placed against it, and seem to adhere to it like barnacles upon a ship's bottom. Were it relieved from such unworthy associates, it would be a grand and august ornament of the city. The paucity of monuments, and those little worthy of notice, which are now to be found in Scotland, cannot escape the observation of the traveller. This is no doubt owing to the distracted state of the country during and long after the Reformation; and to the denunciations of John Knox against church ornaments, as so many badges of popery. The learned and elegant Bishop of Galloway, whose Commentary on the Revelation

was celebrated by some lines by Drummond, of Hawthornden, and supposed to have been an ancestor of Cowper, the Poet, was buried in Edinburgh, but where I could not learn. There is a brief account of this learned and excellent prelate in Hayley's supplementary pages to his admirable Life of his friend and favourite Poet, Cowper.

As the church establishment of Scotland, and its effects, very early arrest the attention of the stranger, I shall, in this stage of my narrative, submit the information I have collected, and the result of the remarks I made, upon the subject, both in Edinburgh, and afterwards in different parts of Scotland which I visited.

The progress of the Reformation, rapidly spreading over Europe, was accelerated in Scotland by the Regent Arran, who, in his first parliament, permitted the laity to read the scriptures in their own tongue, by which they were soon enabled to detect the many absurdities which disfigure the Papal form of worship. What was wanting to perfect the work of conviction was effected by the masculine and daring eloquence of John Knox. These united causes soon decided the opinion of the nation, and the majority of the people formed themselves into a body, called the Congregation, and possessed themselves of the principal cities of Scotland;

in defiance of all the open and secret stratagems of Mary of Guise, who succeeded Arran in the regency.

The followers of Calvin at length succeeded in establishing their religion. The following will afford a tolerable specimen of the oratorical powers of John Knox, upon the subversion of popery in Scotland. When the statue of St. Giles, the tutelar saint of Edinburgh, was carried through the streets in procession, the populace rose upon and dispersed the priests and monks, and broke the statue in pieces; the event was thus described by that sturdy and ardent enthusiast: "Dagon was left without head or hands; down goes the cross; off go the surplices, round caps, and coronets with the crowns. The grey friars gaped, the black friars blew, the priests panted and fled; and happy was he that got first to the house; for such a sudden fray came never among the generations of antichrist within this realm before."

The following is a brief sketch of the constitution of the Scottish church, in which every act connected with its discipline, which in other churches would flow from the authority of a diocesan bishop, or a convocation of the clergy, is the result of the united deliberations of a certain number of clergymen and laymen, acting together, with equal authority, and deciding every question by a plurality of voices. These

laymen are called ruling lay elders, of whom there are two or three in every parish. The Presbyterian ecclesiastical courts are four, as follow:—The highest is the General Assembly, which might with propriety be designated an ecclesiastical parliament, and consists of a certain number of ministers and ruling elders, delegated from each presbytery, and of commissioners from the royal boroughs and universities. In this assembly, which meets once a year, the King presides by a commissioner, who is generally a nobleman of high rank, but has no voice in their deliberations. A moderator is chosen from their own body, who presides and regulates the proceedings. The ruling elders are generally persons of the first rank and talents in the country. In questions purely religious no appeal lies from this court.

Provincial Synods are next in authority, and are composed of the members of the several presbyteries within the respective provinces, which give names to the synods. The presbyteries are composed of all the pastors within a certain district, and one ruling elder from each parish, commissioned by his brethren to represent, in conjunction with the minister, the session of that parish. Their duties are confined to the ordination of pastors, the examination and licensing of probationers, rebuking contumacious sinners, &c. The Kirk Session, the lowest ecclesiastical judicatory, consists

of the ministers and elders of the congregation. Such is the constitution of the Scottish church, by which a liberal and enlightened care is taken of the rights and consciences of the people, in all those important matters connected with their happiness here and hereafter.

The regular established clergy of Edinburgh are twenty-four; of these, three are in the town of Leith, two in the suburb of Canongate, and two in the parish of St. Cuthbert. There are three places of worship in the capital, and one at Leith, belonging to the Scottish episcopalian church, which are entirely independent of the English church, and are superintended by bishops of their own, of which there are seven in Scotland. There are also three episcopal chapels, one in the Old and two in the New Town, where divine service is performed according to the English liturgy; three places for Roman-catholic worship, including the chapel at Holyrood-house; and many others, belonging to a variety of dissenters and sectaries. No one will wonder that the Scottish reformers carried their resentment against their enemies so far as to pursue almost any practice that was opposite to the usage of their adversaries; but I think it is to be regretted that the organ should have been excluded with so much abhorrence from their worship. The common people amongst the dissenters, to this hour, call the episcopal chapels in Edinburgh, which have organs,

the *whistling kirks*. The vocal talents of the followers of the old established church of Scotland induced me to lament that this grand and solemn instrument had been thus banished: at the same time, it is fortunate that the bagpipes have not been introduced in its room, as hautboys have been in our country churches. That the organ affects the mind with solemnity, and is an auxiliary to the pulpit, only those to whom Nature has been very parsimonious will deny. The whole of the Lord's Prayer, I was informed, is seldom used. The moderates occasionally introduce parts of it; but the rigid Presbyterian ministers do not even go so far. In the established churches there are no altars; the communion is administered on a board or a table. Many of the lower orders like a particular cant or whine in their preachers; in former times this was called the Gospel *sowcht*, or sound; and the more a preacher has of it, the more he is followed. It is whimsical enough, that, after the Reformation, the most devout and enthusiastic clergy used to adopt their rhapsodies to the tunes of common songs, a few lines of which were engrafted on the holy effusion. The following specimen is taken from a collection of pieces, printed at Edinburgh, by Andrew Hart, in 1590, under the title of "A compendious Book of godly and spiritual Songs, collectit out of sundrie Parts of the Scripture, with sundrie of other Ballats, changed out of prophaine Songs, for avoiding of Sin and Harlotrie."

John come kiss me now,
John come kiss me now;
John come kiss me by and by,
And mak na mair adow.

The Lord thy God I am,
That (John) does thee call;
John represents man,
By grace celestial.

My prophets call, my preachers cry,
John come kiss me now;
John come kiss me by and by,
And mak na mair adow.

Who is at my windo? who, who?
Go from my windo, go, go;
Who calls there, so like a stranger?
Go from my windo, go.

Lord! I am heir ane wretched mortal,
That for thy mercie does cry and call:
Mercie to have thou art not worthie,
Go from my windo, go.

It is a curious fact, that there are only ten resident Jews in Edinburgh, in which there is no synagogue; nor is there one, I am informed, in the whole country. The person who communicated this piece of information added, "but der be many neither Jew nor Christian." This circumstance is no proof of the poverty of the country; on the contrary, it shews that, from the increasing prosperity of the Scotch, the accommodation of the rich Jew is not wanted; and that the keen stratagems by which the humbler Jew exists in other

countries would be of no avail amongst a people remarkable for their acuteness in making bargains.

Of the Society of Quakers, above seventeen years of age, in Scotland, there are only between one hundred and one hundred and fifty; and in Edinburgh from forty to forty-five only. The number of Catholics in Edinburgh is about fifteen hundred. That of Easter Communicants is from five to six hundred. In the Lowlands of Scotland there are about fifty stations of Catholic clergy, but only thirty-three priests, and the like number of chapels. In the Highlands there are nineteen or twenty priests; and the number of Catholics is supposed to be greater there, and in the Hebrides, than in the Lowlands. A few years since, the Catholic clergy made a computation of the numbers of Catholics in Scotland, and they were taken at about twenty-five thousand: since that period, a great number of Irish manufacturers have settled in Glasgow and the neighbouring country; where the aggregate number is considered not to fall short of thirty thousand; and others are evidently increasing, notwithstanding the emigrations to Canada, and the very great proportion of Catholic young men who entered into the army since the war with France.

CHAP. IX.

ANECDOTE OF HANDEL—ORGAN AT GLASGOW—QUEEN MARY'S EXCLAMATION—SCOTTISH PSALM-SINGING—THE HOLY FAIR—THEOLOGICAL ACUTENESS OF THE LOW SCOTCH—THEIR DEVOTION—EXEMPLARY CONDUCT OF SCOTTISH CLERGY—CHURCH LIVINGS—AN ENGLISH TITHE ANECDOTE—SCOTTISH CLERGY, HOW PAID—RELIGIOUS ANECDOTE—SPECIMENS OF DEVOTIONAL ELOQUENCE—SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH—THE MAIDEN—A CURIOUS RELICK—EDINBURGH VOLUNTEERS—SCOTTISH THEATRICALS—SINGULAR THEATRICAL ANECDOTE—MRS. SIDDONS—MACKLIN—A NATIONAL CHANGE—MORE THEATRICAL ANECDOTES.

IT is related, that when Handel's Messiah was first performed, the audience were much affected; and when the chorus struck up "For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth," they all rose with the King, who happened to be present, as by one involuntary motion, and remained standing till the chorus ended; and hence arose the fashion of afterwards standing during that chorus in future. Handel was so sensible of the effect of divine music, that a few days after the performance of the above oratorio, he called upon the late Lord Kinnoul, who paid him many gratifying compliments upon the elevated pleasure which he had afforded the town; upon

which Handel said, "My Lord, I should be sorry if I only entertained them; I wished to make them better."

In Holland, where there is the same church establishment as in Scotland, I saw several fine organs, particularly the celebrated one at Haerlem, which possesses the vox-humana stop. The Dutch, in this respect, have a better taste than the Scotch. Before I quit the subject, I cannot help mentioning, that, when I afterwards visited Glasgow, I began to think the national prejudice was beginning to yield in favour of sacred music, in consequence of my observing an organ in one of the churches there; but, alas! this innovation in the rigid discipline of Calvin was censured by the Presbytery of Glasgow in the following resolution: "That the Presbytery are of opinion, that the use of organs, in the public worship of God, is contrary to the law of the land, and to the law and constitution of our established church; and therefore prohibit it in all the churches and chapels within our bounds; and, with respect to the conduct of the clergyman in this matter, we are satisfied with his judicial declaration, that he will not again use the organ in the public worship of God, without the authority of the Church."

The Scotch appear not to have made much improvement in their psalm-singing since the time of the unfortunate Mary, if I may be permitted to judge of her feelings by my

from those who wish to attend them; and it is astonishing what pilgrimages the Scottish peasants perform upon these occasions, their enthusiasm appearing to redouble in proportion to the distance and difficulty of reaching the place of devotion.

The piety of the Scottish clergy is in general only equalled by their learning. They every where reside in their own parishes; and, by their instruction and example, dispense the blessings of religion, the light of reason, and the offices of humanity and benevolence, to all within the range of their operation, though it is perhaps to be regretted, that owing, as I have before observed, to the prodigious extent of some of the parishes, such benefits frequently operate at a distance. At one of the meetings of the general assembly, it appeared, by the declaration of clergymen, that there are parishes in Scotland from sixteen to sixty-six miles in extent.

The provision for the Scottish clergy of the established religion arises in various ways. In most towns it is a teind stipend, raised by parochial assessment. In most parishes the minister is paid in corn, viz. so many bolls of wheat, barley, oats, &c. according as the living is rich or poor; the average selling price of such grain being fixed by a jury

of landholders and farmers, by which judicious arrangements the minister obtains the value of his portion of corn at the price it will sell for that year in that district. He has also other advantages, afterwards mentioned, and over and above these teinds. These are what are called Free Teinds, by which are meant the teinds, or tithes, of any estate or estates in a parish, which have not already been paid to the minister. If all the teinds, or tithes, have been so appropriated, the teind is said to be exhausted, and the minister can have no augmentation from that source.

I could not learn why the whole of the tiends were not, immediately upon the establishment of Presbyterianism, appropriated to the support of the clergy: that they were not is evident from these free teinds remaining, subject to be appropriated to the use of the clergy, upon application to the Commissioners of Teinds; perhaps it may have originated from the nobles and landholders having, as there is an universal spirit of jobbing even in matters relating to religion, reserved them as a douceur, or subsidy, for assisting (as they unquestionably did assist) in establishing Presbyterianism, and from the clergy prudently acquiescing at the time. Upon the whole, the Scottish clergy are better provided for, in the aggregate, than the English. I believe, by Sir William Scott's Bill, it has been ascertained, that if the

whole income of the Church of England were thrown into a common fund, and equally divided amongst the clergy, it would not yield to each individual 75*l.* per annum; whereas the income of the Scottish clergy would average each of its members from 180*l.* to 200*l.* a year. The English clergyman pays all taxes; the Scottish, I am informed, are exempted from the house, window, and horse taxes. The English clergy are obliged to keep their parsonage-houses in repair; to rebuild them if they fall down; and their representative is bound to restore any dilapidations; and sometimes they have no glebe. The Scottish ministers have houses (called manses) built and kept in repair for them by the landholders of the parish, and have always glebe land, which, I am informed, cannot be less than five Scottish acres of good land; and in poor soils twenty, or more. They have also established a fund, under the sanction of an act of parliament, about fifty years ago, as a provision for their widows, who, by the payment of a small sum, enjoy a pension for their lives; and their children also receive a sum of money. The annat, or half-a-year's benefice, over and above what was due to the deceased minister himself for his incumbency, is also divided into two equal parts, of which one goes to the widow, and the other amongst the children, per capita.

Thus to regulate the claims of the clergy upon the laity,

for that support to which they are justly entitled, is as distinguishable for its wisdom as for its justice. It is well calculated to prevent similar animosities to those which too frequently exist between the clergy and their parishioners in my own country, in consequence of the present state of the tithe-laws. Amongst many instances of this which might be adduced, I will mention one which came within my own knowledge. An English clergyman, exasperated at the conduct of some farmers belonging to his parish, for not complying with a composition which he offered, demanded, and actually took, his tithes in kind; which so inflamed the minds of the farmers, that for a long time they would not attend the service in the parochial church when it was performed by this clergyman. The farmers are almost always averse to any increase in the payment of tithes, when raised by the clergyman; and exhibit much more disgust, on such an occasion, than they do in submitting to a composition, however heavy, when offered by a lay impropriator.

The livings in Scotland are very seldom less than 80*l.*, and not more than 400*l.*, per annum. Every clergyman is bound to reside, and, in consequence, no curate is required or allowed. In Scotland there is no *holy sinecure*. As the clerical duties cannot be delegated, they afford constant

occupation for the minister, who, in their discharge, would think himself and the sanctity of his function insulted and degraded were any remuneration offered by those who become the objects of his pious attentions.

The manner in which the holy office of the highly-beneficed clergyman is frequently delegated, in England, to a poor and half-famished curate, calls aloud for reform. I am credibly informed that a curate in the Isle of Wight cleans the boots, and attends to the horses, of his sacerdotal master. When all these circumstances are considered, and also the difference of expense between the two countries, the Scottish clergymen will be little entitled to the illiberal remark which I have often heard in England made upon them, that their provision was so poor that no respectable man would willingly suffer his son to become a member of the Scottish ministry, and that it must be necessarily filled in general with ignorance and vulgarity. It was a singular trait in the mind of Johnson, that, during his tour in Scotland, he felt such an aversion to attend the service of the Scottish church. When solicited to hear that literary luminary, Principal Robertson, preach, he said, "I will hear him if he will get up in a tree and preach, but I will not give a sanction, by my presence, to a Presbyterian assembly."

I was highly gratified in hearing a sermon delivered at one of the episcopalian churches, in the Old Town, by the Rev. Mr. Alison, a Scotchman, the well-known author of Essays on the Nature and Principles of Taste, and the brother-in-law of the celebrated Dr. Gregory. I never heard the Lord's Prayer delivered with more affecting emphasis, or a sermon in which the classical elegance of the scholar, the pathetic eloquence of the orator, and the piety of the divine, were more eminently and effectively displayed. In the course of his sermon he moved many of his congregation to tears by the most feeling allusion to a heavy domestic affliction,—the painful uncertainty of his family respecting the fate of the heroic Colonel Macleod in Egypt, a brother of Mrs. Gregory's. A few days afterwards it was officially announced that he had perished gallantly in the service of his country, in that distant region, where, as the eloquent minister observed, "his ashes were ungathered to the sepulchre of his forefathers." That my readers may form some conception of the style of Mr. Alison's devotional eloquence, I submit to them the following beautiful extract from a sermon which he preached on the death of Sir William Forbes, of Pitsligo, Bart.:—"When we follow to the grave the lowest and most obscure of our brethren, we feel the importance of these words of the Spirit. It is sad to part with any human being to whom we have been accustomed. It is solemn to think where it

is the invisible spirit is gone. And the still ear which has heard, with a kind of awful sympathy, the last sound that falls upon the coffin of the dead, listens with rapture to the mighty voice which then speaks to us from Heaven, and which gives us the only consolation that our prophetic nature can receive. He (Sir William Forbes) looked forward upon life, not only as the theatre of Time, but as the school of Immortality. It was from this high discipline that, in the years of inexperience, no illusions of the world, and no seduction of example, were ever able to detain him amid the sordid scenes of youthful dissipation; and that, although his early years were passed in that dark age of our country when infidelity was fashionable, and when the guilty hand of Genius was shaking all the foundations of human faith and hope, no vanity of youth, and no authority of age, ever induced him to let go one principle of his religious faith, or to relax one spring of the ambition of virtue."

The Scottish Episcopacy has no fund of maintenance except the voluntary contributions of their congregations, and the seal-rents. Two years since a subscription was set on foot by the Duke of Buccleugh, (whose munificent and public spirit has been so frequently displayed,) and other noblemen and gentlemen, for the purpose of purchasing property, the rents of which were to be applied for the

support of the bishops; and some progress has been made in the liberal project. The following is the present state of the Scottish Episcopal Church:—

Diocese of Edinburgh.

Right Rev. D. Sandford, D. D. in Edinburgh, Bishop.

Edinburgh	Arch. Alison
	Robt. Muirhead
	James Walker
	Simon Reid
Stirling	George Gleig.

Diocese of Glasgow.

Rt. Rev. Wm. Abernethy Drummond, Bishop.

Glasgow	Rob. Adam
	—— Falconer
	Wm. Routledge
	Alex. Jameson.

Diocese of Dumblane and Fife.

	—— Bishop.
Muthil	Alex. Cruickshank
Alloa	
St. Andrews	Wm. Robb
Cupar	Wm. Nicoll
Pittenweem	David Low
Cruden	John Stephen
Peterhead	Patrick Torry
	W. Laing
Longside	John Cuming
Lonmay	Wm. Sangster
Fyvie	Alex. Christie
Turreff	Jo. Cruickshank
Pitsligo	John Gleig
Banff	James Milne
Portsoy	John Cardno
Arradoul	Alex. Shand
Forgue	And. Ritchie
Melklefolla	James Innes
Old Deer	Alex. Christie
Monymusk	Alex. Cay.

Diocese of Moray.

Right Rev. Alex. Jolly, at Frasersburgh, Bishop.

Elgin	Hugh Buchan
Keith	John Murdoch
Huntly	James Walker

Diocese of Ross.

Right Rev. And. Macfarlane, in Inverness, Bishop.

Ord	Wm. Paterson
Appin	Donald Maccoll

Diocese of Dunkeld.

Rt. Rev. Jonathan Watson, at Laurencekirk, Bishop.

Forfar	John Skinner
Kirrymuir	John Buchan
Meigle	David Moir
Perth	Alex. Walker
	R. Fenwick
Strathtay	Jo. Robertson
Murthle	Ja. Somerville.

Diocese of Brechin.

Rt. Rev. J. Strachan, in Dundee, Bishop. Wm. Milne, Assistant.

Arbroath	Alex. Nicol
Brechin	Ja. Somerville
Montrose	Pet. Cushnie
Lochlee	Peter Jolly
Drumlithie	Robert Spark
Stonehaven	Geo. Garden
	Rob. Memes
Muchalls	Wm. Murray

Diocese of Aberdeen.

Right Rev. ——— in Aberdeen, Bishop.

Aberdeen	Roger Aitkin
	Wm. Skinner
Oldmeldrum	Nath. Grieve.

Having heard that the *Maiden*, a Scottish instrument of decapitation, which was invented many years since, and is said to have furnished the French with the plan of their guillotine, was still to be seen in a room under the Parliament-house, curiosity led me, as I was passing that way, to endeavour to find it out. I could not help smiling upon my asking an old man, who appeared to be on duty at the place, where the *maiden* was, to hear him gravely reply, that he he did not know there ever was one in Edinburgh in all his time.

Indeed, for some time, no one appeared to know where the maiden was; at length I heard that it was in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries, where I at length found it. In the rooms belonging to this institution, are several valuable curiosities, at present badly arranged and kept, consisting of ancient and foreign armour, weapons, and several Roman antiquities and coins. In one chamber there is a collar, with this curious inscription upon it: "Alexander Steuart, found guilty of death, for teft at Perth, and gifted by the justiciars as a *perpetual servant* to Sir John Areskine, of Alva, the 5th Dec. 1701." This collar was fastened round the neck of the culprit, who exchanged death for slavery in this extraordinary manner. There is also an ancient Highland querne, for grinding oats. The maiden is in a cellar under the rooms; the frame is something like a painter's easel, about ten feet high, having

grooves in its inner edges, in which an axe, heavily surmounted with lead, was placed, and which fell with precision, upon being disengaged from the peg which held it at top, upon the head of the culprit, which was fastened upon a cross bar, about three feet and a half from the bottom. The axe of this instrument is a square, that of the French guillotine being a square, cut diagonally; it was frequently used at Halifax in the time of Queen Elizabeth. It is a curious coincidence, that the Regent Morton, who first introduced the maiden into Edinburgh, that M. Guillotine, who improved, and caused it to be used in France, under his own name, and that Brodie, who induced the magistrates of Edinburgh to adopt the new drop, now generally used in England, for the execution of criminals, all severally perished by the instruments of death which they themselves had introduced.

Whilst I was at Edinburgh, I had the good fortune of being present in the Links, or meadows, at a review of the Royal Edinburgh first regiment of Volunteers, which was actually the first raised in the island, under the command of Lord Justice Clerk Hope, to whose arduous exertions and eloquence the country is much indebted for keeping alive that spirit which, in the moment of apprehended danger, first impelled so many citizens to quit their tranquil station in life to defend their country. The regiment mustered about five hundred effective men, presented

a very fine appearance, and went through their manœuvres in a soldierlike manner. There are other volunteer regiments belonging to Edinburgh. Every county, city, and town, in Scotland, have raised volunteers. I have ever entertained the highest admiration for this service, convinced as I am, that, in spite of all the petty sarcasms which have attempted to bring the volunteer force into disesteem, and to make the volunteers dissatisfied with themselves, whenever the hour of real peril arrives, their country will feel their consequence, and their revilers will be glad to take shelter in their rear. When the character of our enemy is considered, only the infatuated can doubt of the importance of a national defence;—an enemy most ably and prophetically described by one, whose transcendent genius and eloquence, though far removed to a distant region, reflect lustre upon his country. I allude to the animating and prophetic speech delivered by Sir James Mackintosh, at a general meeting of the Loyal North Britons, in August, 1803:—"The greatest means of destruction," said he, "are now directed against us, which were ever collected against the existence of a civilized state, animated by the fiercest malignity, and, I ought to add, guided by the most consummate skill. Every thing will be done that *political arts* and *military talent* can effect. We have to do with an enemy who is not deterred by difficulties or dangers: he will not content himself with one sort of attack: he will not be driven from his purpose

by the defeat of some attempts: nothing will be left undone for the destruction of the only country that stands between freedom and universal tyranny. All this is not the result of temporary and accidental circumstances; it arises from a permanent state of things. We have to prepare for a long siege."—If, menaced as we are with invasion, any result from the late disastrous campaign in South America could at all reconcile us to the disgrace which our military character sustained there, it would be the reflection that an armed population obtained a triumph over a regular and an invading army.

The removal of the court at the Union, and the rigid adherence to Presbyterianism, have conspired to render theatrical representation very little the subject of public patronage in Scotland, although every effort has been made to render it a source of fashionable amusement. At one period, the Lords Elibank, Monboddo, and Ankerville, Lords of Session, Mr. Baron Stewart, Mr. Alexander Maxwell, Mr. Callender, and other distinguished personages, became the proprietors of the theatre, from a desire of raising it into celebrity by their patronage and superintendence. How far devotional bigotry has interfered will appear from a very singular fact which occurred in 1756, when, a few days after the representation of *Douglas*, upon its being known that Mr. Home, a clergyman of the esta-

blished religion, had composed it, the religion of the country was declared to be in danger; and the Presbytery of Edinburgh suspended, *pro tempore*, all the ministers within their jurisdiction who had even attended its representation, and issued letters to the other Presbyteries, recommending them to proceed with similar violence against such of their own clergymen who had offended in the like manner. The play was publicly denounced, and the theatre was stigmatised as "the Temple of Lies." The injunctions contained in this address "warn, exhort, obtest, and plead with all within their bounds, to discourage the illegal and dangerous entertainments of the stage; and to restrain those under their influence from frequenting such seminaries of vice and folly."

Upon this subject the Presbytery of Glasgow issued equally extraordinary resolutions:—"The Presbytery having seen a printed paper, entitled 'An Admonition and Exhortation of the Reverend Presbytery of Edinburgh,' which, among other evils, bewails the extraordinary and unprecedented countenance given of late to the playhouse in that city; and having good reasons to believe that this refers to the following melancholy but notorious facts, that one, who is a minister of the church of Scotland, did himself write and compose a stage play, entitled 'The Tragedy of *Douglas*;' and got it to be acted in the theatre at Edinburgh; and that he, with several other ministers of this church, was

present, and some of them oftener than once, at the acting of the same play, before a numerous audience; the Presbytery, *deeply affected with this new and strange appearance*, &c." Whilst the Presbytery of Haddington was seriously deliberating upon the fate of its accomplished and elegant author, who was guilty of having written one of the most refined and affecting dramas of the age, held up in our schools as the model of pure and classical imitation of nature, and well calculated to improve the dramatic taste of his country, Mr. Home very wisely sent in his resignation, and has survived the absurd prejudices of his countrymen, who now regard him with as much pride and admiration as they formerly did with abhorrence; and when I was at Edinburgh this venerable ornament of his country was still alive, although from great age, and consequent debility of mind, only his body could be said to be so.

As a proof how soon the Scotch became ashamed of such narrow-minded prejudices, and that the reign of bigotry and folly can endure but for a short space of time, as extraordinary as the above story is it, that when that illustrious actress, Mrs. Siddons, first appeared at Edinburgh, the business of the ecclesiastical court was regulated by her nights of acting, and the chief officers were obliged to fix their days of business in the evenings of which she did not perform, in consequence of the younger members, clergy, as well as

laity, taking their seats at three o'clock in the afternoon when she performed.

The Theatre, which stands on the east side of the northern extremity of the bridge, is a very inadequate building in its exterior, and the surprise which it excites is not much diminished upon entering it. The trellis-work of the lower part of the stage-boxes is open, which has a very light and pleasing effect. During my stay at Edinburgh, *The Man of the World* was performed to crowded houses. This circumstance may be considered as exhibiting a new trait in the character of the Scotch. When this play was first acted, the part of *Sir Pertinax Macsycophant*, which was intended, with the keenest satire, to represent the Scottish character, and to affix to it the most abject and degrading servility, excited the highest indignation amongst that people. It is said indeed (if my memory serve me correctly) that the life of Macklin, the author, was in peril in consequence of this production. The Scotch have now, however, *lived down* the severity of the censure; they have shewn, upon occasions too numerous to detail, and too well known to render it necessary, that they can reach honour and opulence without servility, and that to brilliant genius and profound learning they can add manly frankness and an exalted spirit of independence. *The Man of the World* is always played to crowded houses; and many of those speeches of *Sir Pertinax*,

under the lash of which every Scotchman formerly writhed, now excite only laughter and applause. Conscious, if the satire was ever merited, that it now no longer applies, they regard it with the same good humour as we do "*The true-born Englishman*" of Daniel de Foe. Many distinguished actors have played upon the boards of this theatre, which may be considered as the high road to an introduction to a London audience.

A custom once existed here, as it formerly did in England, and as I found it still exists, even to a degree of expensive inconvenience, in Holland, of giving douceurs to servants upon every visit. The origin of its abolition in Scotland is related to have arisen in the following singular manner:—"About twenty years ago, the practice of giving vails to servants universally prevailed throughout Scotland. Nothing can be conceived meaner on the part of a master than permitting his servants to be paid by others; nothing more inhospitable towards guests than suffering them, in a manner, to pay for their entertainment. Nothing can tend more to make servants rapacious, insolent, and profligate, than allowing them to display their address in extracting money from the visitors of their masters; yet this custom had crept in universally. Its bad effect had already been severely felt, when an outrage of the footmen in the playhouse displayed the evil in so strong a light as

to occasion its redress. Although it is the province of the stage to lash the vices and ridicule the follies of the people in all ranks, yet, soon after the farce of *High Life below Stairs* was published, the footmen, taking it in high dudgeon that a farce reflecting on their fraternity should be exhibited, resolved that it should be no more performed. Accordingly, upon the second night of its being announced in the bills as a part of the entertainment, Mr. Love, one of the managers, came upon the stage, and read a letter containing the most violent threatenings, both against the actors and the house, in case the piece should be represented; declaring that above seventy people had agreed to sacrifice *fame*, *honour*, and *profit*, to prevent it. Notwithstanding this fulmination, the performers were ordered to go on. That servants might not be kept in the cold, nor induced to tipple in the adjacent alehouses, while they waited for their masters, the humanity of the gentry had provided that the upper gallery should afford, gratis, admission to the servants of such persons as were attending the theatre. Yet did the only part of the spectators which were admitted for nothing presume to forbid the entertainment of their masters, because it exposed the vices of their own order. No sooner was the piece begun than a prodigious noise was heard from the footman's gallery: they were ordered to be silent, but ineffectually. Many of the gentlemen discovered, among the noisy crew, their indivi-

dual servants. When these would not submit to authority, their masters, assisted by others in the house, went up to the gallery; and it was not till after a battle, and that the servants were fairly overpowered and thrust out of the house, that quietness could be restored. So daring an insult made it not only necessary that the servants should be deprived of the freedom of the playhouse, which they had so grossly abused, but that the practice of giving vails, so pernicious to their morals, should be abolished. The gentlemen of the county of Aberdeen had the merit of being the first to make a resolution neither to give nor allow their servants to receive any money from their visitors, under the name of drink-money, card-money, &c., and, instead of it, to augment their wages. They were followed by the gentlemen of the county of Edinburgh, by the Faculty of Advocates, and other respectable public bodies, and the practice was utterly exploded over all Scotland."—*History of Edinburgh*, b. iii. p. 374.

CHAP. X.

THE POLICE OFFICE—ROBBERIES—LIGHTING OF EDINBURGH—SUPPLIES OF WATER—COALS—FRAUDS—THE BALLANTYNE PRESS—THE LUNATIC ASYLUM—THE CHARITY HOUSE—THE GOLF—THE CADDIES—A MUSICAL BANQUET—THE RACES—NATIONAL PRIZE DANCING—DELICACY IN DANGER—BAGPIPE ANECDOTES—HARPS—THE HARPERS' SEAT—KING DAVID—SCOTTISH MELODIES—QUEEN MARY AND PURCEL—COLD AND RAW.

A STRANGER, who wishes to see a display of the peculiar manners of the Scotch, will be gratified by visiting the Police Office of Edinburgh. This office, so important to the citizens of Edinburgh, was established by act of parliament, on the 17th July, 1805; the magisterial chair of which is ably and honourably filled by John Taite, Esq. as Judge of Police. The powers of this magistrate are very extensive. He has authority to commit, either to the tolbooth of Edinburgh, or to bridewell, persons convicted of offences against the peace, health, and comfort of the city, and of petty depredations, enumerated in the act, for a space not exceeding sixty days; and when persons are committed to bridewell, he may prescribe the kind of labour in which such persons may be employed, consistent with the regula-

tions of that prison. He has also power to fine any person, convicted of such offences, in any sum not exceeding 40*s.* and to give judgment in damages for any sum not exceeding 3*l.* with the expenses in either case. The fines and penalties so recovered are paid to the collector or collectors, appointed by the general commissioners, or to persons authorised by him or them to receive them; one-half of which is to be distributed amongst the officers of police, watchmen, and others, employed in the execution of the Police Act, in the discretion of the superintendent; and the other half, or as much as is necessary, to the treasurer for the bridewell, for the aliment and clothing of persons committed to that prison. In the discharge of his duties the Judge is indefatigable. The beneficial effects of this establishment to the city, under such direction, will appear from the following statement, which I extracted from the book containing the proceedings of this court:—

The number of causes tried in the first year, ending 17th July, 1806, were	2,858
Ditto, ending 17th July, 1807	1,965

Therefore the number of offences committed, and cognizable by this court, and prosecuted there, were, in the second year of the establishment of this new system of police, 893 less than in the first year. In the present Judge of Police I found another instance of that passion for literature so observable in the Bench and Bar of Scotland. Mr. Taite, like his

much-respected and distinguished brother magistrate in England, Henry Jame Pye, Esq. Poet Laureat, has at various times gratified the public with several elegant effusions of poetry, amongst which his Tears of Genius, prefixed to an edition of Gray's work, and the Cave of Mora, have excited considerable approbation.

The establishment of this new system of police has led to the reduction of the *town-guard* from one hundred and twenty-six men, who were raised for the defence of the city, to one officer and thirty men, who now form a guard for the Provost. The town-guard is of very ancient origin; it was first formed from the fears of the citizens of an attack from the English, after the unfortunate battle of Flowden, in which James IV. and most of the Scottish nobility perished. There is also a society of sixty constables annually elected amongst the merchants and tradesmen. In no city is there more security from robbery than Edinburgh, a circumstance which may be attributed to the natural honesty of the people, as well as the vigilance of the police; for few cities are worse lighted, or afford, in consequence, a greater facility to depredation. I remember one night, in the latter end of July, when it was remarkably dark, that my hands were of as much use as my eyes, and occasionally more serviceable, in enabling me to find my way from George's-square to St. Andrew's-street, a distance of

nearly a mile over the North Bridge. No lamps are lighted but in the winter, and then with great parsimony. The city is tolerably well supplied with water. The reservoir on the Castle-hill is well worth seeing; it contains about 300 tons of water: there is another lately erected near Heriot's Hospital, which contains nearly the same quantity. When the fountain-head, at Corniston, which is about three miles and a half south-west of the city, and about forty-four feet above the reservoir on the Castle-hill, is full, the great pipe of the latter discharges into the reservoir in town 210 Scots pints per minute, or nearly 840 English pints. Private families are accommodated with pipes to their own houses, upon payment of a small annual sum to the magistrates. Many of the inhabitants of the Old Town, on account of the height of the houses, are supplied with water by persons who live by bringing it in small barrels on their backs. It is in contemplation to introduce a copious spring of water from the side of the Lothian-road, westward of the Castle, which at present runs entirely to waste. This spring may be most beneficially applied in watering the streets in hot weather; in cleansing the public markets, which sadly require it; and the surplus may be used for affording occasional supplies to the common sewers. If I might be permitted, I should strongly recommend the stone pipes made at Mr. Hill's circular masonry, in London, as the most cheap, pure, and durable conveyance of the water.

Coal is the only fuel used in Edinburgh, with which, from the neighbouring pits, it is well supplied. Coals brought to town are always weighed, at a weigh-house adjoining the town-gate; each cart ought to carry twelve hundred weight. As knavery is sometimes practised here, as well as in London, by the coal-dealers, it frequently happens, upon examination, that they have been discovered to have only ten hundred weight. The carriers sometimes have been known to drop some of the coals on their way to the city, which were taken up by some comrade, and then make up the weight by pouring water over the rest.

Very near the Police-office is the Exchange, on the north side of the High-street. This building is in a square form, with a court in the centre; it is sixty feet high towards the street, and one hundred behind, owing to the declivity of the ground. Although this building offers every convenience to the merchants to transact their business under cover, inveterate habit induces them to prefer the site of the ancient cross, in the open street, where they assemble in all weathers. This building exhibits the date of the improvement of Edinburgh; it was erected in 1753, at which time the city covered the same space of ground as it had done two centuries before. Near to the Exchange is the Weigh-house, in which the standard weights are kept, for weighing all kinds of goods, at the requisition of the inhabitants, and which attracts attention

on account of its excessive deformity. It is an execrable nuisance and disfiguration to the street in which it stands.

In beauty and splendour of printing Edinburgh has established a reputation even superior to Paris. I had great pleasure in visiting the printing-offices of Ballantyne and Co., which are very extensive, and remarkable for the great neatness and order which appear in every part of them. For the claims to typographic excellence, the Scottish metropolis is indebted to the indefatigable and scientific exertions of Mr. James Ballantyne, a gentleman originally bred to the law, but who, conceiving that the art of printing was susceptible of great improvement, directed his mind to the subject, and, by that patient and unremitting ardour which distinguishes his countrymen in all their pursuits, has succeeded in bringing it to its present state of perfection. The many valuable works which issue from this press owe much of their external decoration not only to the beauty of the letters, but the singular rich blackness of the ink, in the preparation of which Mr. Ballantyne has spent much time. Many of the English booksellers send their works to be printed at Edinburgh, where there are now 140 printing-presses employed. The following is a correct statement of the progress of printing in Edinburgh:—

Printing-houses in Edinburgh in	1763	6
	1790	21
	1800	30
	1805	40

A stranger who contemplates the number of charitable institutions, which do so much honour to the Scottish metropolis, calculated to mitigate if not remove most of the calamities which poor human nature is exposed to, feels no little degree of surprise upon finding that there is no suitable public asylum for the wretched maniac: this defect is however about to be remedied. A very feeling and eloquent address, and able plans, have been submitted to the public for the promoting subscriptions, and for the erection of this necessary establishment; and his Majesty's warrant has issued, creating the contributors to it into a body corporate. The plan was greatly indebted to the noble exertions of Sir John Sinclair, Bart. when Chairman of the Committee of the House of Commons; and to the Hon. Henry Erskine, when Lord Advocate of Scotland; and to other distinguished characters. A considerable part of the money actually raised has been advantageously appropriated in the purchase of ground, commodiously situated in the vicinity of Edinburgh. When the proposed building, the plan of which, in my humble opinion, is admirably adapted for the purpose, is once erected, there is the greatest probability, from the report of the credits and expenditure of the most distinguished asylums of this description in various parts of England, that it will soon be enabled to maintain itself. The acknowledged humanity and generosity of the inhabitants of Edinburgh and its

environs will not regard this benevolent project with indifference; a project so well calculated to afford all the possible means of recovery by medical skill, or alleviation by tender and attentive care, more especially as medical men of extensive practice have given it as their opinion that the lunatic affection is increasing. In England and Wales, the number of lunatics and insane persons in gaols, houses of correction, poor-houses, and houses of industry, as far as the account could be made up, returned to parliament in 1807, amounted to four thousand nine hundred and fifteen: from Scotland, I understand, no regular return is made.

How ably and carefully such an institution, when once commenced, is likely to be conducted, will appear from the good management which, under many and great disadvantages, is displayed in the charity-house at present used as a bedlam; in which the patients, forty-two in number, appeared to be as clean and as comfortable as so forlorn and deplorable a disorder would admit. The superintendent appeared, from the order which I observed in the house, to have availed himself of that timidity which is well known to attend insanity, without any act of unnecessary coercion; and great credit is due to all who have any share in attending to this depository of hopeless horror.

On the downs where the volunteers were reviewed I had frequent opportunity of seeing an amusement peculiar to this country, called the Golf. The art of this highly favourite game consists in parties of one, two, three, or more, on each side, endeavouring to strike a hard ball, about the size of a tennis-ball, into one hole, or several small holes, successively, distant from each other about a quarter of a mile, with the fewest strokes. There are several bats or clubs used in the course of the game; that by which the ball is struck is formed of ash, slender and elastic, about four feet long, crooked in the head, faced with horn, and having lead run into it. The Scotch are in general extremely expert in this exercise; and so highly was it formerly esteemed, that the dress usually worn on the occasion, and one of the bats, form the decorations of many a male in a family-picture. A company of golfers was established in 1744. This game is supposed to have been suggested in consequence of the large flats along the margin of the sea, so frequent along the Scottish shore, affording great facility for playing it.

I was sorry to learn that the Cadees, formerly a most useful and trust-worthy body of men, who were, almost a century back, incorporated by the Town Council, and invested with the sole right and privilege of being news-

criers and pamphlet-sellers, and who afterwards became errand-men, remarkable for their dispatch and integrity, have nearly disappeared. Dr. Smollet, in Humphry Clinker, thus describes them:—"There is at Edinburgh a society or corporation of errand-boys, called cawdies, who ply in the streets at night with paper lanthorns, and are very serviceable in carrying messages. These fellows, though shabby in their appearance, and rudely familiar in their address, are wonderfully acute; and so noted for fidelity, that there is no instance of a cawdy's having betrayed his trust. Such is their intelligence, that they know not only every individual of the place, but also every stranger, by that time he has been four-and-twenty hours in Edinburgh; and no transaction, even the most private, can escape their notice." Then follows a very curious and whimsical account of a sort of saturnalian dinner, given by these cawdies in his time; Cawdie Frazer in the chair.—The porters who attend at the different hotels, and in the streets, have the reputation of activity and honesty.

Though the cadees, as they are now called, have declined, there is another body of men, whose ancient character, skill, and celebrity, the Scottish gentry seemed determined to perpetuate.

Having mentioned to some of my friends my enthusiastic

admiration of music, I was promised a rich treat, as the competition of the Scottish pipers was at hand. That no part of this musical banquet might pass untasted, I was pressingly invited to the rehearsal in the ancient Assembly-room, before the judges, and informed that it was a great favour to be admitted. I shall never forget it! As soon as the prize-judges were seated, the folding-doors opened. A Highland piper entered, in full tartan array, and began to press from the bag of his pipes, which were decorated with long pieces of ribband, sounds so loud and horrible, that, to my imagination, they were comparable only to those of the eternally tormented. In this manner he strutted up and down with the most stately march, and occasionally enraptured his audience, who expressed the influence of his instrument by loud and reiterated plaudits. For my part, so wretched is this instrument to my ears, that I could not discover any difference, in regard to expression, between "The Gathering of the Macdonalds" and "Abercrombie's Lament*," each sound being to me equally depressive, discordant, and horrible. Several, and, as I was informed, highly approved performers, followed, with a few and short, but welcome intervals, filled up by High-

* *Lament* is a sort of dirge, in commemoration of deceased persons of eminence; and some airs are called *ports*.

land dancers, who favoured us with some reels, in which agility, without the slightest accompaniment of grace, seemed the only object of attainment. I observed that these poor fellows had good reason to be jealous of the pipers, as their performances were suffered to be of very short duration, and the attention gladly removed from their nimble activity, occasionally accompanied by a peculiar shrill whoop, to the dismal drone of the pipes, which Butler has so well and so wittily described:—

> Then bagpipes of the loudest drones,
> With snuffling broken-winded tones,
> Whose blasts of air, in pockets shut,
> Sound filthier than from the gut,
> And made a viler noise than swine
> In windy weather, when they whine.
>
> HUDIBRAS.

Whether in derision or not, I do not pretend to say, but Dr. Johnson is reported to have appeared very fond of the bagpipe, and used often to stand for some time with his ear close to the great drone.

Most of the pipers were very fine men, and looked to great advantage in their full costume. Many of them had gained prizes; and, in the hope of procuring further honours, had come from very distant parts. One came from Mull, and another from Sky. I believe it might have been three hours that common politeness compelled me to endure the

distraction of this preliminary trial of skill; and I left the room with nearly the same sensations with which I should have quitted a belfry on a royal birth-day.

The pipers were intended as a sort of dessert to the Leith races, which I attended in the morning, and at which there was a great concourse of people, and some elegant equipages. The horses ran upon the sands, which are not calculated for such a purpose. At the races I saw the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, in his equipage of state. This dignified magistrate is styled Right Honourable, and is High Sheriff, Coroner, and Admiral, within the city and liberties, and the town, harbour, and road of Leith. In the city he takes precedence of all the nobility and great officers of state, walking on the right hand of his Majesty, or his Commissioner; and has a sword and mace borne before him. As soon as the races are concluded, it is the fashion to attend the theatre, which, merely to keep my word with a party, I visited. The pipers and dancers again exerted themselves; the latter wore philibegs, or short petticoats, instead of breeches; and, in the course of their springs and caperings, would doubtless have alarmed the sensitive feelings of a member of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, had such a one been present, for the wounded delicacy of the ladies in the pit; but custom reconciles us to all things, and I have no doubt that the dancing was enjoyed from this situation

with perfect innocence and composure. Fearful of being detained during the whole of this national performance, I mounted one of the highest boxes, from which, however, I was glad to escape as soon as possible. I afterwards met with several persons of both sexes, who, with the highest fondness for their native country, regarded the bagpipes with the same disgust as I did. Oh! Catalani, had you been there, how would you have exclaimed, with the ill-starr'd Mary, "Quelle musique, et quelle repos pour sa nuit!" The piper to the Laird of M'Nab and Breadalbane, I was informed, bore off the prize,—a bagpipe, handsomely mounted in silver, which was presented to him in the presence of the audience.

That the bagpipe is a sorry instrument, capable of little more than making an intolerable noise, will appear even from its description. The pipes consist of a bass and tenor, or rather treble. The bass part is called the *drone*, on account of its note being uniform; and the tenor, or treble part, the *chanter*, the compass even of which is very limited. The Highland pipe is blown with the mouth, and the Lowland with a small bellows. The Highland pipe requires a prodigious power of breath to sound it, and is loud to a deafening degree when performed in a room. It plays only the natural notes, and is incapable of variation by flats or sharps. Yet the pipers frequently force it to play tunes requiring higher notes, an attempt which produces the

most horrid discord. The bagpipes are said to be of great antiquity. In Rome was discovered a most beautiful bas-relievo, of Grecian sculpture, representing a piper playing upon his instrument, in the dress of a modern Highlander.

In former times the bagpipes had considerable influence on Highland feelings. At the battle of Quebec, in 1760, whilst the British troops were retreating in great disorder, the General complained to a Field Officer in Fraser's regiment of the bad behaviour of his corps. "Sir," said he, with great warmth, "you did very wrong in forbidding the pipers to play this morning; nothing encourages the Highlanders so much in the day of action. Nay, even now they would be of use." "Let them blow like the devil then," replies the General, "if it will bring back the men." The pipers were then ordered to play a favourite martial air; and the Highlanders, the moment they heard the music, returned, and formed with alacrity in the rear. In the war in India, in which Sir Eyre Coote so splendidly distinguished himself, that great General observed, that the Highland regiments were so attached to their pipes, that he paid 50*l.* out of his own purse, to purchase a pair, after the battle of Porto Nuovo. At funerals, and other mournful occasions, the Highlanders play on the bagpipes a melancholy air, which, when heard out of Scotland, affects a Highlander as the Ranz des Vaches does a Swiss. The words of this air are, "Ha pill, ha pill,

ha pill, mi tuillidh." "We return, return, return no more." It has been played to bodies of Highlanders, when marching to the sea, for the purpose of seeking their fortunes beyond the Western Ocean. The airs of "Macgregor a Ruaro," and "Curr a chean dilis," are also said to have the same effects.

The pride of the piper is very high. It is related that a Highland officer, having, in obedience to orders, added a drum to his bagpipe, a spirit of jealousy soon afterwards rose between the piper and the drummer, respecting their title to precedence, which inflamed itself into personal animosity. At length the subject of their quarrel was submitted to the officer, who decided in favour of the drum, whereupon the piper exclaimed, "Ads wunds, Sir! and shall a little rascal, that beats upon a sheep's skin, tak the right hand of me, that am *a musician?*"—As a warlike instrument, the bagpipe may be useful in the field of battle, for its sounds are calculated to scare and annoy; but it is a matter of extreme surprise that it should be introduced into the apartments of private houses, as capable of affording any delight. By a parity of reasoning, a military drummer and fifer might as well be admitted to play during our family repasts in England.

Whilst refinement is rapidly spreading over Scotland, and

a new and more civilized order of things is beginning to be displayed in the most gloomy and desolate parts of the Highlands, it is to be lamented that any one should prevent this barbarous martial music of the country from yielding to instruments more agreeable to the ear. The bagpipe is amongst the very few remaining barbarisms of Scotland.

How much it is to be regretted that in the Highlands there is not now one harper to be found, although the harp was once cultivated with great success from a very early age. That it ever had been used has till lately been much doubted. In 1460, a lady of the family of Lamont brought a Caledonian harp from Argyleshire to the house of Lude, upon her marriage into the family of Robertson, of Lude, where it has ever since remained. When the lovely, but unfortunate, Queen Mary made a hunting excursion into the Highlands of Perthshire, she carried a harp with her, which is now also in the family of Lude. And there is scarcely a poem which is either sung or recited in the Highlands in which the harp is not celebrated. The bards, the heroes, their wives, their young women, are represented as performing upon this instrument.

> " And the shell went round, the bards sung, and the soft hand of virgins trembled on the string of the harp."
>
> *Dr. Smith's Translation of the Poem of Trimna Ghuil.*

" His spouse had remained at home. Two children rose with their fair locks about her knees—They bend their ears above the harp, as she touches, with her white hand, the trembling strings—She stops—they take the harp themselves, but cannot find the sound they admired—Why, they said, does it not answer us? Shew us the string where dwells the song—She bids them search for it till she returns—Their little fingers wander among the wires."

Poem of Frathal, in Dr. Smith's Ancient Gaelic Poems.

In the old castles of several Highland chieftains the harper's seat is pointed out; as the Harper's Window, at Duntillin-castle, in the island of Sky, the ancient seat of Lord Macdonald's family; the Harper's Gallery, at Castlelachlan, in Argyleshire, and others. One of the last Highland chieftains who retained a harper was John Breck, the Laird of Macleod, at his residence of Dunvegan-castle, in the island of Sky. John Garve Maclean, of Colé, who lived in the latter end of the reign of James VI., was considered as a good performer upon the harp. It is related of him, that an English vessel having been wrecked on the island, the Captain of which went to the castle of Cole, where, upon seeing this venerable gentleman with a Bible in his hand, and a harp by his side, he exclaimed, " King David is restored to the earth." At one period every one played upon this instrument, and at festive meetings it was handed round from one to the other. O'Kane, a celebrated Irish harper, who travelled through Spain with his harp, as Goldsmith wandered over various parts of the Continent with his flute, visited Scotland more than once, and was a few years

since for some time in the Highlands. He valued himself on suffering his nails to grow to a considerable length, trimming them very carefully, and shaping them like the quills on the jacks of a harpsicord. When the minstrel grew very impertinent, from excess of whisky, to which he was much addicted, the gentlemen of the Highlands used to punish him by ordering his nails to be cut quite short, and then sending him away. These, and many other evidences which could be collected, sufficiently prove that the harp was once in high fashion and favour in the Highlands. Every person of taste and feeling must regret the decline in Scotland of this exquisite and affecting instrument, and be shocked at its having been succeeded by the bagpipes.

Having thus vented my feelings upon the latter, I should indeed do injustice to the Scottish Muse of Music, were I not to offer my homage to her power of song. Most of the Scottish airs are eminently plaintive and pathetic; they appeal to our feelings, and never appeal in vain. The illustrious Haydn was so enchanted with them, that he bestowed upon them additional parts and symphonies. Their influence extended to the widest degree. An anecdote is related, that Mary, the consort of King William, was a great admirer of a certain Scottish tune, in England called *Cold and Raw*, and in Scotland *Up in the Morning early*. One day, at her private concert, where Purcel presided, the Queen inter-

rupted the music by desiring one Mrs. Hunt, who was present, to sing the ballad of "Cold and Raw;" the lady obeyed, and Purcel displayed evident marks of chagrin in being obliged to sit idle at his harpsicord, and having his compositions interrupted, for the sake of what he considered so trifling. The Queen's birth-day occurring soon after, Purcel, who composed the music for that occasion, either to please or surprise the Queen, or to indulge his own humour, made Cold and Raw the bass of one of the songs, which was afterwards printed in his Orpheus Britannicus, and considered to be very beautiful.

CHAP. XI.

PORTOBELLO—COSTORPHINE HILLS—THE BASS—ITS HISTORY INTERESTING—DUDDINGSTONE-HOUSE—THE LATE COMMANDER IN CHIEF—CRAIGMILLAR-CASTLE—PATON'S EXHIBITION—SCOTTISH PAINTERS—ANECDOTES OF WILKIE—SUBJECTS OF THE SCOTTISH PENCIL—SCOTTISH MUSICAL TASTE—DANCING—GENERAL POST-OFFICE—POPULATION OF EDINBURGH—REMARKS UPON THE LOWER AND HIGHER CLASSES OF SOCIETY—PATRIOTIC ANECDOTE—SCOTTISH MARRIAGES—SCOTCH IN FORMER TIMES.

TWO excursions to Portobello enabled me to observe another instance of the rapid increase of the opulence of Edinburgh. Portobello is a beautiful village, embellished with many genteel houses, and stands close to the sea-shore, which, at low water, presents a fine expanded tract of soft, but dry, sand. It is much frequented in the season by the fashionable families and by respectable citizens of the capital, from which it is but a very short distance, as a delightful sea-bathing place; and, to render it as salutary and attractive as possible, a range of warm and cold salt-water baths, upon a very considerable scale, has been erected by subscription. Portobello Tower, and the houses adjoining,

command a fine view of the Forth, the towns that skirt the coast of Fife, the shipping going in and out of Leith, and a rich and beautiful country lying in the south and west. Although so close to the capital, it has a theatre: to be sure it is in a coach-house, but the company which resort to the place must be considerable to induce a strolling company of players to approach so near the municipal theatre. Portobello is to Edinburgh what the Black Rock is to Dublin.

The Costorphine Hills, the walk to which is very fine, offer a rich treat to the admirer of picturesque beauty. The summit of one of the eminences of these hills, about three miles from Edinburgh, is crowned with four seats, each of which is placed in the recess formed by two walls crossing each other. From these angles there are some of the finest views that the eye can feast upon, each varying from the other; and the city, and its neighbouring crags and romantic scenery, rising majestically to the sight, present an appearance of beauty and splendour combined. From this summit the celebrated insulated rock, called the Bass, was pointed out to me. I could but just discern its extraordinary form, as there was a haze at sea. It is about a mile from the south shore of the Forth, to the eastward of North Berwick. This singular rock is inaccessible on all sides except by one narrow passage, and is famous for the great

flocks of sea-fowl which resort to it in the months of May and June, as their favourite breeding-place, when the surface of it is almost covered with their nests, eggs, and young. The most esteemed among these birds is the gannet, or Solan goose. As this bird is in such high request, and as its young are taken in great quantities every year, a high rent is paid for this rock. They are generally brought to the Edinburgh markets during the races in July, and continue to be sold till the middle of September, when old and young quit the rock, to spend their winter on the ocean, in pursuit of herring or mackerel shoals.

The manner in which they are caught at sea is curious. I was informed that, as these birds are in the habits of dropping, as if dead, from a considerable height into the sea, in order to catch their prey, it is customary to place bait upon a board, sunk by weights about a foot under the water, upon which the birds fall with such force, as to stun or kill themselves.

This island was anciently in the possession of the family of Lauder, who refused to sell it, although several Kings offered to be the purchasers; but, when the family fell into decay, it was purchased by King Charles II., during whose reign, and that of his brother James, it was made a

state prison. A desperate body of pirates, in the interest of King James, obtained possession of it after the Revolution; and, after having for a time committed great depredations on the surrounding seas, by means of a boat, which they hawled up or lowered at pleasure, they were at length starved out, after having conferred upon the rock the honour of being the last place, in Great Britain, that held out for King James.

It would infinitely exceed the limits of this work to attempt to describe the many exquisite scenes and beautiful houses in the vicinity of Edinburgh. However, I shall mention three. In going to Craigmillar-castle, which stands about three miles south of the capital, I passed by Duddingstone-house, a noble villa, of Grecian architecture, standing in a large tract of pleasure-ground, which has been arranged with great taste. This seat belongs to the Marquis of Abercorn; and, although the diversified scenery with which it abounds renders it very attractive, it is much more interesting to the Scotch on account of its having been the residence of Earl Moira when Commander in Chief in Scotland;—a station of high importance, which he filled with distinguished honour to himself and his country. Whilst the public conduct of this illustrious character obtained for him the admiration and respect of the Scotch, his domestic habits engaged their affections. At Dudding-

tone his Lordship lived in a style of splendid hospitality, and became highly popular by having two pipers in his house, and a great mull or Scotch horn, filled with snuff, continually lying upon the table, as well as by a judicious adoption of the customs of the people in other instances. As his Lordship had a high military character to maintain, at a period of great public alarm and anxiety, and much and important business to attend to, the guests, influenced by the example of their noble host, never exceeded five or six glasses of wine at the public dinners given at Duddingstone.

Craigmillar-castle has nothing interesting in its exterior, or in the approach to it. It stands on the summit of a circular hill, and commands an extensive prospect; and is encompassed by a thick rampart wall, about thirty feet high, in many parts much dilapidated. This wall was erected in 1427; but there is no record of the time when the greater part of the castle was built. This venerable pile has several apartments remaining, tolerably entire; but time and the weather have levelled much of it with the ground. It is chiefly interesting from its having been the favourite abode of Queen Mary, after her return from France, in 1561. Her servants were lodged in a neighbouring village, still called Petty France; and in the farmers' gardens which adjoin one side of the castle I saw considerable quantities of garlic growing, descendants, no doubt,

of that pungent root, when first planted for the supply of the Queen's table, and that of her French servants.

The last interesting place which I shall mention is the Hermitage of Braid, a charming villa belonging to Mr. Gordon, about two miles distant from Edinburgh, south from the Borough Moor. At this short distance the visitor is transferred from the noise and bustle of a great capital to an unexpected solitude, as retired as the celebrated Sybil's Grotto between Cuma and Avernus. The house, and many of the walks, lie in a valley, overcanopied with foliage, and watered by a winding rivulet, called Braid-burn, between ranges of low hills, thickly covered with wood. The whole is a little Paradise.

I was much pleased with Mr. Paton's exhibition of the progress of his pupils in writing and arithmetic. A stranger to such a spectacle would scarcely conceive it productive of any attraction but to the immediate relations and friends of the scholars. It is far otherwise. My surprise and gratification were very great. In a magnificent suite of rooms, built for concerts, balls, parades, &c. called Corri's Rooms, a great number of well-dressed fine-looking children, of both sexes, were seated at a suitable number of desks, attentively occupied in writing, a task in which most of them evinced great proficiency. The exhibition of

arithmetic was made by pupils who stood in the orchestra, and who, upon large slates, displayed an astonishing knowledge of the science. This part of the exhibition I had not time to attend, but I am informed that Mr. Paton has a method, which I believe to be entirely novel, of instructing his pupils to add up their columns of pounds, shillings, and pence, by simultaneous calculation. The spectators were numerous, and very genteel; and all that I saw was extremely interesting. I am confident that these public juvenile exhibitions are of the greatest national consequence; they excite a high spirit of emulation, one of the greatest springs of human energy, and produce that proper degree of confidence which is so necessary in society. In this exhibition a taste was displayed that gave an interest to a subject which seemed at first but little susceptible of it.

The Arts in Scotland have for ages been retarded by the feudal establishments, the civil and religious wars, and poverty of the country. They are now, though slowly, raising their heads, and offering their pretensions to public approbation and encouragement. With an exception of the Scongals, and a few artists of less celebrity, there were very few painters of any note till the æra of the Union,—a great national measure, which, in its results, has been most beneficial to the arts of Scotland, although the lustre of a court has been withdrawn. At this period William Aikman, the

friend of the Poet, Allan Ramsay, distinguished himself in Edinburgh as a portrait-painter; and coeval with him were Richard Wait and George Marshall: the former excelled in still life, and the latter in portrait-painting. To these have succeeded John Alexander, a painter of portraits, history, and historical landscapes; Allan Ramsay, the son of the Scottish Poet, who excelled in portrait-painting; the two Runcimans; Brown; Jacob More, a landscape-painter; David Allan, a portrait and historical painter. Most, if not all, of these artists, spent several years in the cultivation of their art in Italy.

Many spirited but unsuccessful attempts have at various times been made by the Scottish artists to establish an Academy of the Arts at Edinburgh. An Academy for Drawing was established, several years since, in Edinburgh, the Mastership of which was bestowed, in 1771, upon Alexander Runciman, by the Board of Trustees for the Encouragement of Manufactures, &c.; upon his death, in 1785, David Allan succeeded him. This artist was distinguished for his able and faithful delineations of the manners and character of the Scottish peasantry. On his demise, Mr. Graham, an eminent historical painter, was appointed to the superintendence of the academy, which he at present occupies. As a portrait-painter, Mr. Raeburn, and, as a landscape-painter, Mr. Nasmyth, have raised

themselves to distinguished and highly-merited celebrity. Their galleries, which are open for the inspection of the public, well deserve the attention of the tourist. To these gentlemen may be added Mr. Williams, landscape, and Mr. Watson, portrait, painters. Besides these gentlemen, and others of considerable merit, Scotland has produced artists who have most successfully exhibited their talents in England. Of these, I have peculiar pleasure in mentioning Mr. David Wilkie, a young artist, who, without the advantage of having visited Italy, has almost *ime et altu* arrested the public attention, and whose works have acquired its unqualified admiration. As this distinguished artist has awakened so much interest, it may gratify my readers to mention something of his history, which will show by what trivial accidents the predominant powers of the mind are frequently brought into expanded and successful exercise. I cannot do this more agreeably than by using the modest language of this meritorious artist, which I do with his permission. "I was born," says he, "at a small and obscure village, of the name of Cults, near Cupar, in the county of Fife. My father is a clergyman, and pastor of that village. The first inclination I showed for painting was, I believe, at a very early period of my life, when I used to spend my mornings with an old woman in the neighbourhood, who frequently gave me a piece of chalk to amuse myself with, which I used to do by drawing the figures of men and

women on a board. Having from this time shown a strong propensity towards the art, my father sent me to an academy at Edinburgh, where after studying for five years, under the direction of Mr. Graham (a painter of considerable eminence), I came to London."—Mr. Wilkie, in his style, is thought to add to the high finish of Teniers the humour of Hogarth. The Scottish artists are much occupied in delineating Scotland, which is a favourite study. There is scarcely a stream *unsung*, and in a short time there will scarcely be a hill or a tree *unpainted*. Mr. Sanders, a very eminent miniature-painter in London, was also born in Scotland. It is possible that I may have omitted the names of Scottish artists, entitled to notice, residing here and in Edinburgh; if I have, I am sorry for the omission. Such a brief review will give the reader a favourable opinion of the state of the arts in Scotland, under the accumulated difficulties which they have had to encounter; and as that country has already produced some of the first orators and writers of this or any age, it is highly probable, from recent evidences, that she will rival the south in her artists. Of her advancement in architecture she has much to be proud of.

Little can be said of the present genius of the Scotch for music; of their former taste we cannot say too much. Perhaps, within the whole compass of music, their ancient airs and ballads, in point of genuine and affecting tenderness,

are unrivalled. However, the people of Edinburgh still have annual concerts during the winter, which are conducted, I was informed, with great spirit and attention, by Corri, in the rooms that bear his name, and have been before mentioned.

At Edinburgh, and at other places, I had an opportunity of remarking the passion of the Scotch for dancing, and the skill which they display in the art. A short time previous to my departure from the capital, I was present at a ball given in the New Assembly-rooms, in George's-street, which are internally very splendid, although their exterior has nothing to boast of in architecture. The dance was not in the principal ball-room, which, however, I saw. This is a noble room, ninety-two feet long, forty-two wide, and forty high, is lighted by eleven large crystal lustres, and has an organ at one end. The ball was under the management of a directress, a lady of rank. Gow, the son of the famous performer of that name, presided at the orchestra, and showed that the taste and uncommon spirit of the father had not perished with him. Many beautiful women adorned the festive scene; and they, as well as the men, exhibited much skill and grace in dancing, particularly in Scottish dances, to which they are very partial. The national gravity of countenance was however visible, and particularly amongst the young men.

It would be tedious to my readers to comment upon all the charitable institutions which do so much honour to

Edinburgh, which has, exclusive of those already mentioned, to boast of an Orphan, Merchant Maiden, Trades' Maiden, and Lying-in Hospitals; a Dispensary, Repository, Societies for the Relief of Ministers' Widows and for the Sons of the Clergy, Watson's and Gillespie's Hospitals, and a Magdalen Asylum. The last is particularly worthy of notice, and reflects great credit upon the active benevolence of Dr. Johnstone, of Leith, to whom also the Asylum for the Blind is under great obligations. The objects of the Magdalen Asylum were removing to a new, handsome, and very commodious house, erected for them, when I was at Edinburgh.

The General Post-Office was established in 1710. The communications which this establishment has opened have been astonishingly increased within a short period. There are now regular posts to not less than two hundred and thirty-five towns. The revenue have also increased in an equally surprising degree.

In 1763	the net produce was	£11,942 per annum.
1777	. . . . .	20,000
1783	. . . . .	40,000
1807	. . . . .	above 120,000

The expenses of managing the business of this office, which is conducted with admirable regularity, are very moderate, considering its extent and complication.

The population of Edinburgh and its suburbs, including Leith, has rapidly increased, as will appear from the following enumerations. It amounted in

1678	to	35,500
1722		40,420
1755		57,195
1775		70,430
1791		84,886
1801		82,560

By this it would appear, that, between the two last calculations, there is a discrepancy of 2,326; but it is necessary to remark, that, when the last enumeration was made, the families in St. Cuthbert's parish were not enumerated, but calculated from the proportion between the families and individuals in the city of Edinburgh, a circumstance which occasioned an error of between two and three thousand; and the population of the Castle, amounting nearly to nine hundred persons, was not included: in addition to which, when the census was taken, many, to evade the hair-tax, income-tax, and militia-laws, concealed their numbers and names. As a decisive proof that the population must have increased, the city has been enlarged nearly one-fourth since 1791, and every house is occupied: the population may now be fairly estimated at not less than one hundred thousand.

Amongst the many handsome shops which embellish this capital, I cannot help mentioning Mr. Cunningham's, jeweller, who has a fine collection of Scottish pebbles. Mr. Cunningham is also known as the friend of the immortal Burns, and has in his possession the bowl out of which he used to drink when he composed.

In a capital so literary as Edinburgh, it is natural to expect that booksellers' shops abound. There are several of great respectability; amongst them, that of Archibald Constable and Co. takes the lead. From this shop some of the most valued literary effusions of the day issue. There are several newspapers printed at Edinburgh. It is a curious fact, that Oliver Cromwell was the first who introduced a newspaper into Scotland. With his army he carried a printer, of the name of Higgins, whom he settled at Leith in 1652, where he published "A Diurnal of some Passages and Affaires," for the information chiefly of the English soldiers.

Although my stay in Edinburgh was short, yet, from being much in society, I had a tolerable opportunity of making my remarks upon the people. Amongst the tradesmen I observed punctuality, sobriety, industry, and much natural civility. In their domestic manners they are said to be much improved, and to resemble those of their own class

in England. In the higher walks of society, I observed, united to a more punctilious regard to family rank than is observed in England, a genuine politeness, unmingled with the frippery and affectation of character, which are frequently the associates of those in the same social scale in the south. Amongst the men this trait is rendered peculiarly attractive by the uncommon degree of literary attainment and general information which they possess: the former the result of that expanded system of education which abounds in Scotland; and the latter the fruits of that spirit of emigration which induces the Scotchman, perhaps more than the native of any other country, to transport his talents, and carve his fortune and his honours in different regions. A Scottish gentleman is a highly-finished character. He is well bred, yet moral; brave, yet courteous; highly cultivated, but unassuming. Having seen many countries, he still prefers his own, to which he returns with a mind more expanded, but not less pure, than when he left it. At the house of a much-esteemed friend I met with a very strong instance of the affection so naturally cherished by almost every one for his native country, and so particularly so by the Scotch. I had the honour of being introduced to Colonel M'Leod, who having lately returned from India, where, by his long and arduous services, he had amassed a considerable fortune, purchased the island of St. Kilda, one of the remotest of the Hebrides, and the place where Lady Grange was so

successfully secreted when forcibly carried away at the instigation of her husband, who dreaded, from her violence of temper, an exposure of his share in *the proceedings* of 1745, as the Rebellion is delicately called, in which island the Colonel had been born, his father having been the clergyman of it. He also purchased a farm in the isle of Sky, on which stood the remains of the school in which he had received the early part of his education.

> O Caledonia! stern and wild,
> Meet nurse for a poetic child!
> Land of brown heath and shaggy wood—
> Land of the mountain and the flood;
> Land of my sires! what mortal hand
> Can e'er untie the filial band
> That knits me to thy rugged strand?
>
> *Lay of the Last Minstrel*, p. 170.

Amongst the ladies there is a frankness of character which forms the happy medium between the frequent reserve of an English lady and the almost unrestrained freedom of a French woman of fashion. With a Scottish lady a stranger is not puzzled to devise new stratagems, every time he meets her, to draw her into an intimacy. Her acquaintance seems impregnated with friendship, and is guarded by a natural modesty, which gives a purity to her conversation, and fills the person to whom she addresses herself with equal esteem and respect for her. The Scottish women are in general accomplished, though I do not think that

they cultivate music either so much or so successfully as my own countrywomen; but it is to be remembered that they have not their advantages in this respect. In England almost every young lady plays and sings with tolerable excellence, and many are perfect mistresses of music, owing to the liberal, and perhaps extravagant, encouragement given to the first masters in that delightful science. Indeed the Scottish ladies very liberally allow the superiority of the English in elegant female education, consider it a great advantage.

The Scotch excel in learning languages; and the strong literary turn, so visible in the character of the Scottish gentlemen, is, in a milder manner, communicated to the fairer sex. Their conversation is always more sensible than playful; and they manage a point of intellectual disputation with equal talent and delicacy. I am well informed that the winter parties in Edinburgh partake very much of the enlightened and agreeable character of the converzationes of France and Italy; and that, at the head of these delightful circles, the lovely and accomplished Lady Charlotte Campbell presides; that her parties are distinguished for talent; that they unite taste with splendour, learning with politeness, and philosophy with gaiety,—an amalgamation which she effects by her own talents, beauty, and good humour.

In their domestic conduct the Scottish ladies are exemplary. Although marriages and divorces are infinitely more easily effected in Scotland than in England, rare are the instances of conjugal infidelity, either on the part of the husband or the wife. This excellent trait is confirmed by the following enumeration of actions of divorce, raised in the Commissary Court of Edinburgh :—

1805	12
1806	16
1807	21

I observed more old husbands here, and afterwards in other parts of Scotland, than I had recollected to have seen in any other place; a circumstance which may be thus accounted for: the young men generally go into the army or navy early, and seldom marry till they have realized fortunes; but the old men are tall and vigorous, and have sound stamina; and perhaps in no part of the world are the women more prolific than in Scotland. For a woman to have ten or twelve children is rather a common event in a family. At a Scottish table the greatest hospitality prevails, tempered with perfect good breeding: no one is forced to drink more than is pleasant to him, and every entertainment is enlivened with

"The feast of reason and the flow of soul."

The genteel dinner hour is from five to six. The tables are bountifully and elegantly supplied; but, except in the straw-

berry season, the dessert is in general meagre. Immediately after dinner, a small glass of Highland whisky is drank as a liqueur. The Scottish ladies dress with great taste in the English fashion, but in general not so expensively as the English; and the furniture of the houses in Edinburgh will suffer by comparison with that of the houses in London. It is neither so elegant nor so costly. The genteel inhabitants of Edinburgh are fond of evening parties, and walking till a late hour in Queen-street, or other beautiful promenades adjoining, particularly by moonlight.

There is a curious contrast to the foregoing description in that which an English traveller has, in a very interesting manner, recorded, upon his visiting Edinburgh, in 1598. "Myself," says he, "was at a Knight's house, who had many servants to attend him, that brought in his meat, with their heads covered with blue caps; the table being more than half-furnished with great platters of porridge, each having a little piece of sodden meat; and, when the table was served, the servants sat down with us; but the upper mess, instead of porridge, had a pullet, with some prunes in the broth; and I observed no art of cookery, or furniture of household stuff, but rather rude neglect of both; tho' myself and my companions, sent from the Governor of Berwick, about Bordering affairs, were entertained after their best manner.

"The Scotch, living then in factions, used to keep many followers, and so consumed their revenue of victuals, living in some want of money. The vulgarly eat hearth-cakes of oats; but in cities they have also wheaten bread, which, for the most part, was bought by courtiers, gentlemen, and the best sort of citizens. They drink pure wines not with sugar, as the English; yet at feasts they put comfits in their wine, after the French manner; but they had not our vintners' fraud to mix their wines. I did never see nor hear that they have any public inns, with signs hanging out; but the better sorts of citizens brew ale, their usual drink, which will distemper a stranger's body; and the same citizens will entertain passengers upon acquaintance or entreaty. Their bedsteads were then like cupboards in the wall, with doors to be opened and shut at pleasure, so as we climbed up to our beds. They used but one sheet, open at the sides and top, but close at the feet, and so doubled. When passengers go to bed, their custom, was to present them with a sleeping cup of wine at parting. The country-people and merchants used to drink largely; the gentlemen somewhat more sparingly; yet the very courtiers, by night-meetings, and entertaining any strangers, used to drink healths not without excess, and, to speak truth, without offence; the excess of drinking was then far greater in general among the Scots than the English. Myself being at the court, invited by some gentlemen to supper, and being forewarned to fear this

excess, would not promise to sup with them, but upon condition that my inviter would be my protection from large drinking, which I was many times forced to invoke, being courteously entertained, and much provoked to carousing; and so for that time avoided any great intemperance. Remembering this, and having since observed in my conversation at the English court, with the Scots of the better sort, that they spend great part of the night in drinking, not only wine, but even beer; as myself cannot accuse them of any great intemperance, so I cannot altogether free them from the imputation of excess, wherewith the popular voice chargeth them.

"The husbandmen in Scotland, the servants, and almost all the country, did wear coarse cloth, made at home, of gray or sky colour, and flat blue caps, very broad. The merchants in cities were attired in English or French cloth, of pale colour, or mingled black and blue. The gentlemen did wear English cloth, or silk, or light stuff, little or nothing adorned with silk lace, much less with lace of silver or gold, and all followed at this time the *French fashion*, especially in court. Gentlewomen, married, did wear close upper bodies, after the German manner, with large whalebone sleeves, after the French manner, short cloaks, like the Germans, French hoods, and large falling bands about their necks. The *unmarried*, of all sorts, did

go *bare-headed*, (the case now amongst the lower Scottish women,) and wear short cloaks, with most close linen sleeves on their arms, like the virgins of Germany. The inferior sort of citizens' wives, and the women of the country, did wear cloaks made of a coarse stuff, of two or three colours, in chequer work, vulgarly called *pladden*. To conclude, in general they would not, at this time, be attired after the English fashion in any sort; but the men, especially at court, follow the French fashion; and the women, both in court and city, as well in cloaks as naked heads, and also sleeves on the arms, and all other garments, follow the fashion of the women in Germany."

In 1729, another traveller, writing from Edinburgh, observes, "I have been at several concerts of music, and must say, that I never saw, in any nation, an assembly of greater beauties than those I have seen at Edinburgh. The ladies dress as in England, with this difference, that when they go abroad, from the highest to the lowest, they wear a plaid, which covers half of the face and all the body."

CHAP. XII.

SCOTTISH PRONUNCIATION—WILLIAM DUNBAR—SCOTTISH LANGUAGE—HUMOUROUS PROVINCIALITIES—SCOTTICISMS—MENDICITY—SCOTTISH POOR—POOR-LAWS—REMARKS—SCOTTISH POOR, HOW PROVIDED FOR—ANECDOTE OF AN ENGLISH OVERSEER OF THE POOR—DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SCOTTISH AND ENGLISH POOR—AUTHOR LEAVES EDINBURGH—QUEEN'S FERRY—BROOM-HALL—LORD ELGIN—VAST LIME-QUARRIES—DUNFERMLINE-ABBEY.

I HAD not been long in Edinburgh before I found, in several parties of both sexes, how much the English pronunciation is admired. The mode of utterance amongst the higher classes, particularly amongst the females, is far from being unpleasant. In the latter I think it very soft and interesting: however, it is a dialect which the well-bred and the learned are desirous of expelling from their tongues and writings. But, although we have a decided advantage over the Scotch in pronouncing the language, they rival us most completely in the purity of their written English. I have heard Scotchmen assert that the English language was known in Scotland in more purity in an earlier period than in England. I should doubt the truth of this assertion, and

without meaning the slightest disrespect to the Scotch, I conceive that a natural course of events would have rendered the language in England rich, copious, elegant, and analogical, at an earlier period than in Scotland, even had the capital continued to have been irradiated by all the refinement and luxury attendant upon the presence of majesty.

It also appears from history that the power of writing the English language was, for a long period back, considered as an estimable attainment; and it was for this that William Dunbar, one of the best poets in the court of James V., was valued. Mr. Ritson, in his Historical Essay on Scottish Song, informs us, that, in the thirteenth century, the language of England and Scotland differed only in dialect; the Gaelic, like the Welch, being confined to the mountains of either country. The fathers of English and Scottish song were contemporary. Upon the death of James V., in 1542, the poetical language of Scotland was very fine and beautiful. Upon the accession of James VI. to the English throne, the Scottish language began to droop for want of royal encouragement. That princely pedant, though he could never attain the English, disliked the Scottish, pronunciation; and would suffer his Caledonian subjects to address him only in English or Latin.

The Scotch, in constant terror of their Scotticisms, have studied English as they would a dead language; and those, who have not been much in England before the organs of speech are formed, are not able to speak it as an Englishman. The celebrated Hume has the reputation of having been the first, who introduced into his country that dignified, and classical style of composition, which has been continued with so much felicity by Robertson, and other illustrious Scottish writers since the death of Hume, and brought to so great a degree of grace and purity, that Scottish authors cannot now injure their style by imitating one another, and that English authors may, in many instances, consult it as a model. To return to the Scottish pronunciation, I must confess that, to my ears, it is far from being agreeable amongst the lower classes of society; and every Englishman I have met with who has seen Scotland, and, I believe I may add, every refined, travelled Scottish gentleman, feels as I do upon the subject. A nice ear is very sensible of the difference which marks the dialects of almost every county in Scotland. The natives of Ross-shire, Inverness-shire, Banffshire, Aberdeenshire, &c. all speak differently from each other: to some this difference of dialect would amount to a foreign language. The following humourous circumstance will illustrate this difference of provincial idiom. An English gentleman, some years since, travelling into the north of Scotland, was told, when he came to Edinburgh, that he

would not be able to understand the Aberdeenshire dialect, and was advised to take an Edinburgh servant as an interpreter, which he did; and upon his arrival at Lady F—'s, an old Scottish Countess, who had associated with very few English, he was desired by the venerable and hospitable lady, when seated at dinner, to *fa' tee*, and eat. Upon applying to his interpreter for an explanation, the servant said, "Hoot, mon! her Ladyship means *fa' tu*, and eat." "And pray what the devil," replied his master,—"is fa' tu?"—"It means fall to."

A native of the same county, in the course of conversation with an Englishman, made some inquiries of him relating to the death of a friend in the East Indies, and said, "*Fat deed he o?*" which the Englishman not understanding, another Scotchman, by way of helping him, exclaimed, "*Fat o deed he?*" The letter *f* is always used in Aberdeenshire for *w*. It is very common, when one suddenly asks a Scottish peasant a question, for him to exclaim, "What's your wull?

The following peculiar expressions and Scotticisms, (which I partly heard and partly collected in my Caledonian rambles,) in use amongst the common people, will, I think, be amusing to the reader, and at the same time exhibit a poetical strength of expression which I had many opportu-

nities of admiring in Ireland. "If you will gang after that man with the *tree* leg," said a labourer in Edinburgh to me, upon my asking my way to a street, "he will tak ye to it." The man he pointed out had a *wooden* leg. A servant at an inn said, "Oh! Sir, it has been a terrible wet and *fiery* night;" meaning that there had been much rain, accompanied with thunder and lightning. They also say, "It rains so hard to-day, that I fear *I shall not get walked.*"—"*Q.* Did you see him? Oh! yes; I saw him *fine.*"—"Oh! my uncle is a *dungeon* of learning!" exclaimed a girl, when speaking of the pedantry of her relation. In the north they emphatically say, "He was a good man, for he could see from his door a hundred smokes rise on his ground." And again, "He cannot thrive, *for he put out fifty smokes;*" meaning that he removed so many tenants. A Lowlander had an occasion to visit Loch Buy, at Moy. "Well! what think you of this spot?" said a gentleman. "Ah! Sir, it is a *gaie* (very) *bonnie* place to be out of the world." I often met with the word *mortification* used to express a deed of gift to a charitable fund; for instance, "So many missionaries and catechists, in such a place, are supported by Lord or Lady Such-a-one's mortification." The founder of the charity is also called *Mortifier.* At Aberdeen the manager of certain public funds, who is chosen annually, is called the *Master of the Mortifications.* "We have lately got a mortification here," said a northern

burgess to a gentleman from England,—"I am very sorry for it," replied the Englishman.—The other stared, and added, "Yes, a very considerable mortification; an old miser died the other day, and left us ten thousand pounds to build an hospital."—"And call you that a mortification?" said the stranger.—"Yes," replied the Scotchman, "and we think it a very great one."

Send a *Council-post* means send a special messenger. Edinburgh is called *Edinbru*. To say such-a-one is an *honest man* is an expression of kindness and regard. *Wrongues* and *iniquious* are in frequent use amongst lawyers. The Scots often use wife and woman as correlatives, and say an *old wife* when they mean an *old woman*. Sometimes wife, in compound words, denotes a woman of mean employment; as, a *strawberry-wife*, a woman who sells strawberries. To *think shame* is to be ashamed. *Victual*, in Scoth, is used for *corn*, and *vivres* are victuals. *I weary* when I walk alone; *i. e.* I become weary. The inn is very *throng*; *i. e.* very full. *Fresh weather* means soft, open, opposite to frosty. He *fevered*; that is, he took a fever. *An ashet*, from the French, assiette, is a plate. What airt is the wind in? how is the wind? In Aberdeenshire, and in other counties it is usual, when a common person means to call the attention of another to what he is going to remark, to say "Speak to me," which is apparently the reverse of what

he means. Many of the vulgar words, as must have appeared in the foregoing Scotticisms, are of Saxon, German, Dutch, and French etymology. The Scotch use several diminutives to express a little animal or thing; for instance, they would call a very young kitten "a *little, wee,* catty."

The greater part of the Highlanders, like the Irish, understand English and many of them speak that and Gaelic, with equal fluency. This possession of two languages gives to the peasantry of both countries that acuteness of thinking which cannot fail to strike a stranger, and seems to be the result of a mind considerably cultivated. They both frequently speak in very periphrastic language. One Highlander said to another, "Though I gave your father's son a cow, it does not follow that I can give your father's son my daughter."

I met with few instances of mendicity in the streets. The beggars here, as in Holland, are very few, and far from being importunate. Amongst the many regulations of political economy which excite the admiration of the stranger, the system by which the poor in Scotland are maintained cannot fail to awaken interest. The poor-laws in England have for a long period afforded regret to every intelligent and reflecting mind. Its evils are many, its advantages to the

state very few. The wretchedness of the poor in England, strange as it may appear, has increased with the increase of the poor-rates, which, in 1773, were estimated at not less than three millions. In 1788, Mr. Beaufoy, in the debate on Mr. Gilbert's Poor-Bill, said, "that, within the then last nine years, the poor-rates had increased one-third; and, should they continue increasing for fifty or fifty-three years, they would amount to the enormous sum of 11,230,000*l.*, a burthen which the country could not bear."

Lord Kames, in his Sketches of Man, book ii., sketch 10, well observes, "*Fear of want* is the only effectual motive to industry with the labouring poor: remove that fear, and they cease to be industrious. The ruling passion of those who live by bodily labour is to save a pittance for their children, and for supporting themselves in old age. Stimulated by a desire of accomplishing those ends, they are frugal and industrious, and the prospect of success is a continual feast to them. Now, what worse can malice invent against such a man, under colour of friendship, than to secure bread to him and his children, whenever he takes a dislike to work, which effectually deadens his sole ambition, and, with it, his honest industry? Relying on the certainty of provision against want, he relaxes gradually till he sinks into idleness; idleness leads to profligacy; profligacy begets diseases; and the wretch becomes an object of public charity, before he has

run half his course. Wisely therefore is it ordered by Providence, that charity should in every instance be *voluntary*, to prevent the idle and profligate from depending on it for support. During the reign of Elizabeth, when the monasteries were recently suppressed, and all their revenues squandered, some compulsion might be necessary, to prevent the poor from starving. A temporary provision for this purpose, so contrived as not to supersede voluntary charity, but rather to promote it, would have been a measure extremely proper. Unlucky it is for England that such a measure was overlooked; but the Queen and her Parliaments had not the talent of foreseeing consequences without the aid of experience. A perpetual tax for the poor was imposed; the most pernicious tax that ever was imposed in any country."—In Scotland, however, several acts were passed, at various times, for establishing a general tax on property, for the support of poverty; and the last statute enacted, viz. of William and Mary, in 1691, which ratifies and confirms all former acts of parliament and proclamations of council for repressing of beggars and maintaining and employing the poor, and which statute remains unrepealed to this hour, promised to be as pregnant with mischief in Scotland as the 43d of Elizabeth in England; but although suchacts still continue in the Statute-Books, it appears that, on account of the fortunate discrepances of their respective provisions, they have been adjudged, by a solemn

decision of the Court of Session, in an action there brought against a gentleman, for not complying with an assessment to the poor, by the overseers of the parish in which he resided, to be of no force.

In Scotland, the poor who are partly, or entirely, incapable of maintaining themselves without assistance, are accurately distinguished, and comfortably maintained, with a degree of discrimination and humanity which do equal honour to the head and the heart of those who contribute to a relief thus substantially effected without any compulsory pauper-rate. The Scotch system is very simple, and presents a strong contrast to the mode adopted in England. On every Sabbath, at the door of the parish church, a bason, under the immediate care of an Elder, is placed on a stool, or held in his hand, in which those who have the power of manifesting their beneficence deposit what they can afford. After the congregation is dismissed, the kirk session, corresponding with our vestry, composed of the minister, elders, session-clerk, and kirk-treasurer, assembles, before whom the money so collected is counted over, entered in the session account-book by the session-clerk, (who is generally the schoolmaster of the parish, and is the only person who receives any, and that a very trifling, remuneration for his trouble, in keeping the accounts,) and afterwards deposited in a box kept for the purpose.

The mode of distributing these charitable donations is also admirable. Immediately after divine service, a fortnight's notice is given from the pulpit, that a distribution will be made, at the hour and place appointed, to those who stand in need of relief. At this meeting, a rigid investigation of the circumstances of those who apply for eleemosynary aid precedes any application of it; and the wise precautionary rules, by which those who are concerned in the custody and distribution of the money are governed, enforce a due discharge of duty, and prevent almost the possibility of error, fraud, or spoliation. At these meetings, the money of the poor is not, as in England, scandalously resorted to, to discharge the cost of an extravagant dinner for the overseers of the poor; but the whole is regulated most for the advantage and comfort of the unfortunate beings, who, by friendless age or sickness, or uncontrollable misfortune, are rendered the deserving objects of benevolence.

I knew a worthy man in England, who having, by successful trade, accumulated a comfortable independence, retired to enjoy it in the country. In due course he was appointed one of the overseers of his parish; a short time previous to the day on which he, his colleague, and the church-wardens, were to meet for the purpose of adjusting the parochial accounts, he sent to them to invite them to dine at his own house on that day, instead of applying any

of the poor's money to defray the expenses of a dinner at an inn in the town, a practice which had always been before observed. The invitation was refused, on account of the pernicious effects of such an example to all future parish-officers; and this faithful guardian of the poor was considered in no other light than as a worthy visionary.

But the poor of Scotland do not rely for relief upon the Sunday collections alone. Some small fees paid at funerals, for the use of a mort-cloth, or pall, which is purchased out of the poor's money, the extra offerings at the administration of the Lord's Supper, and the interest of donations in money, or the rent of donations of land, left by pious persons for the support of the poor, and applied with the same religious adherence to a strict discharge of duty, severally augment the stream of benevolence; and if the funds are not adequate, a never-failing source is formed to supply the deficiency by the landholders, who, upon being convened for that purpose by the minister, assess themselves, in proportion to their valued rents, to meet the emergency, which does not often happen; to these resources may be added the well-known filial piety of the Scotch, who never suffer the venerable beings who have imparted life to them to seek relief from charity, till every exertion to save them from it has proved unavailing.

I could not learn that a single instance had occurred where proper assistance in the hour of need had been refused. What an affecting, what a consoling, system is this! how simple in its elements, how noble and effusive in its operations! By such wisdom and humanity Scotland is almost wholly free from mendicity. An Englishman accustomed to hear the clamours of the poor in his own country, and to find their numbers daily increasing, is lost in admiration as he contemplates this union of wisdom and humanity,—an union which is powerfully aided by the peculiar spirit of the people. In England the low manufacturer, the petty shopkeeper, and the peasant, are in the frequent habits of seeing members of their own class in life become paupers through idleness, and apply for parochial relief as they would for the price of an article in trade, or the wages of labour, without the pang of shame: they see and feel no degradation, and hence the increasing number of paupers, and the alarming increase of the poor-rates. The northern artisan, tradesman, or peasant, on the contrary, feels a conscious pride in living by the fruits of his own industry; he knows that for indolence and profligacy there is no relief; and, even under the pressure of long disease and unavoidable misfortune, the *moral pride*, if I may use the expression, of his family or neighbours, will call forth every energy to keep him from the *degradation* of parochial relief. The effect of this system

upon the manners and character of the people is very striking. The Scotch generally make keen bargains, but very seldom dishonest ones. They are actuated by a spirit of shrewdness, frugality, industry, and decent pride, which is visible in all their transactions, and which entitles them to the respect of every observer.

After seeing every thing worthy of observation, and experiencing the highest civility and attention, I bade adieu to Edinburgh, and set off for Queen's Ferry, distant about nine miles. It is so called, because Margaret, Malcolm's third Queen, used frequently to pass that way in her road to and from Dunfermline, where she resided. The road to this place passes through a highly-cultivated county and rich improved estates, and is embellished on either side with neat cottages, each having a garden of vegetables, and the whole being such as might be expected in the neighbourhood of a great capital. The view from the inn is as beautiful as any in nature, and exhibits a nearer view of the objects which are seen from the Costorphine Hills.

This ferry is more frequented than any other over the Forth, and is the great communication between the Mid-Highlands and the south-eastern parts of Scotland. Many carriages pass this way; and, by the great care and dexterity of the ferrymen, are, as well as the passengers, soon wafted

over to the other side of the Forth with great safety. The stage-coaches and mail between Aberdeen, Perth, and Edinburgh, run this way. In the time of James III. owing to the little progress made in the science of navigation, and the violent gusts of wind to which the Forth is exposed, this ferry, indeed the whole of the Forth, was extremely perilous; and the careful monarch passed a law, declaring, "That there be na schip frauched out of the realm, with any staple gudes, fra the feast of Simon's Day and Jude, unto the feast of the Purification of our Lady, called Candlemas."

I much regretted that my time and route would not permit me to visit Broom-hall, the magnificent seat of Lord Elgin, which stands on the north side of Queen's Ferry, directly opposite to Hopetoun-house. I was informed that some part of the shell of this mansion was built in the late Lord's time, as well as some detached parts of the offices, which are now united, and embellished in one grand design, with porticoes, presenting a front of four hundred and seventy feet, on the exact model of the remaining examples of Grecian architecture brought by his Lordship from Greece, under the able and tasteful direction of Mr. Porden, the gentleman from whose designs that beautiful structure, the stables of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, at Brighton, was erected.

Broom-hall is entitled to the rank of a highly classical building. The grand portico is exactly formed from the Temple of Minerva, at Athens; the two lateral porticoes are true copies of the Propylæa; the two others, entrances to the offices, resemble the Agora; and the grand hall is the exact model of the interior of the Ionic Temple. Lord Elgin was our Ambassador at Constantinople for some years, and is well known to be a nobleman of distinguished taste. Whilst he was in Greece he was attended by skilful artists, who, under his superintendence, collected several statues and precious fragments from the different temples of Athens, which his Lordship has, at great expense, transported to England, and which, with a noble liberality, he has opened to the public inspection.

I had also another cause of regret, in not seeing his Lordship's lime-quarries, which, as they have been described to me, are immense excavations, resembling vast piazzas. From these quarries one thousand five hundred lime-vessels were freighted, in 1806, for agricultural use, in different parts of Scotland where lime is not found.

Travellers used also to be attracted in this direction by the beautiful remains of Dunfermline-abbey, in the neighbourhood of Broom-hall. The former, history informs us, was begun by King Malcolm III., and is celebrated, next

to Jona, for being the cemetery of several Scottish Kings; amongst others, of the illustrious Robert Bruce; but no inscription remains to distinguish them from the vulgar dead. The abbey was in the Anglo-Saxon style of architecture. A great part of its venerable ruins was destroyed by the falling of the steeple, in the latter end of last August.

CHAP. XIII.

HOPETOUN-HOUSE—PROCESS OF TRAMPING—LINLITHGOW—THE PALACE—ANCIENT SCOTTISH COURT—ASSASSINATION OF THE REGENT MURRAY—FALKIRK—GREAT CANAL—THE CARRON WORKS—THE RIVER CARRON—WALLACE'S OAK—STIRLING—EARL OF MARR—STIRLING-CASTLE—HISTORICAL INCIDENTS—JAMES V. AND THE ITALIAN FRIAR—SCOTTISH TOILETTE—EXTRAORDINARY TIDES OF THE FORTH.

AFTER much difficulty, on account of the number of persons travelling to Edinburgh just at this period, I procured a couple of sorry horses, and proceeded for Linlithgow. The town of Queen's Ferry has nothing in it worthy of notice but occasional picturesque interest, and a large manufactory of soap, which pays a higher duty to the excise than that of any other town in Scotland. The ride along the coast is exquisite beyond description. At various turnings, the Forth, with its beautiful landscape and shipping, presents all the varieties of a vast lake, a mighty river, and a sea, embellished with lofty hills and promontories, highly-cultivated grounds, shores and winding bays, and skirted with villages.

After enjoying this enchanting prospect, I turned from

it to ascend an eminence, upon which stands the stately mansion of Hopetoun-house, the approach to which is very fine. This building was commenced by Sir William Bruce, and finished by Mr. Adams. The interior does not correspond with the splendour of its external appearance, although there are some handsome apartments. I observed in the dining-room of this house, as I have in the rooms of other houses in Scotland, that the wainscot was plain deal, and not painted. Upon my remarking this circumstance to the man who attended me, he observed, "My Lord is very fond of the *deal colour.*" I scarcely know a greater eye-sore. There are some good statues and several pictures, few of which are valuable. My Ciceroni was not very brilliant in his explanations; every picture, according to his account, was by Pasarillo or Parchini, names much more familiar to him than they were to me. The grounds and woods adjoining this house are extensive, and finely laid out; and the views from them abound with subjects for the pencil.

In my way from Hopetoun-house to Linlithgow I saw the process of *tramping*, that is, of washing. The washer-woman first soaps the linen, and next puts it in a tub of cold water; she then *kilts her coats*, that is, raises her petticoats above her knees, and dances round the tub with her face outwards, until she presses out the dirt with her

feet; she then rinces the linen in the river or stream, and dries it on the grass. If the tub is large, and the work much, two women will dance round, hand-in-hand, laughing and singing all the time. The charms which are thus sometimes very liberally displayed are such that will not admit of being gazed upon with stoic composure. I could not help comparing this method with that practised by the washer-women of France, and in other parts of the Continent, who beat out the dirt from the linen with battledores; and giving the preference to the Caledonian tramping for one reason more than that the method purifies the linen without injury.

I passed through a highly-cultivated and picturesque country; but before I arrived at the town I had an ample opportunity of ascertaining the force and copiousness of a Scottish storm of rain, which, however, upon its dispersion, increased the beauty of the surrounding objects. I was not sorry to change my dress, before a good roaring fire, at a little but neat inn, at the entrance of the town, which afforded me as much comfort as I could reasonably desire for two days. The town, which is a royal borough, is very ancient, and was formerly a place of great trade, opulence, and splendour; though it now presents but little appearance of its former consequence. It consists of a street running from east to west, about three miles long, with several

lanes and gardens on the sides of it. The manufacture of shoes and tanning of leather form the chief occupations of the inhabitants. The only objects in it worth seeing are the remains of the palace, which have a very grand and solemn appearance: they occupy a rising ground, at the foot of which is an extensive lake, and very nearly an acre of ground. The date of the present palace is not known. It became a fixed royal residence upon the accession of the Stuart family to the throne, by their marrying into the family of Bruce: and it presents a variety of architectural styles, on account of its having been repaired and altered under different monarchs. The square within the palace is very handsome, and the apartments and galleries very numerous: the parliament-chamber, now exposed to the clouds, and its floor covered with weeds and nettles, is a very large room. The chimney, or *vent*, as my guide called it, still remains, and is suitable to the magnitude of this room, in which it is said the unfortunate Queen Mary was born, on the 8th of December, 1542. In an aisle in this awful pile King James IV. saw the apparition, as it was then believed to be, which foretold the fate of the battle of Flodden, and which was supposed to have been a stratagem of his Queen to prevent his expedition into England.

Upon the beams of one of the rooms is still visible the

smoke occasioned by the troops under General Hawley, who were lodged here, when they set fire to the palace, after the battle of Falkirk, whether by accident or design is not ascertained. Never did I enjoy a scene of a melancholy tendency more than upon the roof of this gloomy august pile. As I contemplated it, my mind accompanied my eye with the lines of Ossian:—

> "They have but fallen before us—for one day we must fall. Why dost thou build the hall, son of the winged day? Thou lookest from thy towers to-day; yet, a few days, and the blast of the desart comes; it howls in thy empty court, and whistles round thy half-worn shield."

Its many roofless apartments, its massy sombre walls, corroded by time and the elements, its shattered windows, the moan of the wind through its long mouldering galleries, the clouds rolling in gloom, and occasionally admitting a gleam of misty light partially to stream upon its sides; the sluggish lake below, just curled by the cold breezes of the evening, the town and the surrounding hills, but indistinctly seen, produced an effect equally sublime and mournful. This building was kept in repair and inhabited till the year 1746, when the catastrophe before mentioned took place. In former times the court was kept here with uncommon splendour:—

> For from the lofty balcony
> Rung trumpet, shalm, and psaltery:
> Their clanging bowls old warriors quaff'd,
> Loudly they spoke, and loudly laugh'd.

Whisper'd young Knights, in tone more mild,
To Ladies fair; and Ladies smil'd.
The hooded hawks, high perch'd on beam,
The clamour joined, with whistling scream;
And flapp'd their wings, and shook their bells,
In concert with the stag-hounds' yells."

Lay of the Last Minstrel.—Branksome Castle, 175.

Such was the magnitude and grandeur of the building, that they drew from the Queen of James V., although bred up in all the pomp and luxury of a French court, a very high eulogium. She said, after observing that the court and inhabitants of Scotland were the most polite and civilized she had ever seen, that the Palace of Linlithgow was the most magnificent. The church adjoining is a fine Gothic building, surmounted with an imperial crown: in front of this building divine service is still performed. It was once adorned by several statues, which were destroyed by the reformers.

A new fountain, in imitation of the ancient one, which had been erected one hundred and eighty years, upon a space opposite the Town-house, was constructing whilst I was at this place. The ridiculous figures which formed the spouts for this water were well copied. There is no variation in this copy from the original, except in the base. It is a good imitation of a rude, but elaborate, and, allowing for the taste of the times, a splendid, piece of masonry.

These sort of public wells, or fountains, are common in the towns of Scotland. A stranger is also shown the house from which Hamilton, of Bothwellhaugh, shot the Earl of Murray, Regent of Scotland, with almost unparalleled deliberation and arrangement. The following is an interesting account of that extraordinary event:—" After the unhappy Mary Queen of Scots, in consequence of her marriage with Bothwell, the murderer of her husband, Darnley, had so far excited the indignation of the whole kingdom, previously prejudiced against her on account of her religion, that she had been driven from her throne, and her infant son James VI. proclaimed King in her stead, the Earl of Murray, a natural son of her father, and a zealous supporter of the Protestant cause, was made Regent of the kingdom. The deposed Queen, having escaped from Lochleven-castle, was supported by the Hamiltons and others; but their forces being defeated at the battle of Langside, she fled into England; and the Regent, amongst other instances of vengeance, authorized one of his dependents to seize the old house of Woodhouselee, which belonged to James Hamilton, of Bothwellhaugh. Hamilton's lady was residing there at the time, and she was barbarously thrust out of the house, almost naked, at midnight in winter, to perish in the snow. The unhappy woman, by the morning, was found, not indeed to have expired, but to have lost her reason. Her husband, enraged by the atrocity of this

injury, undertook to avenge, upon the person of the Regent, at once the misfortunes of his party, and his own private wrongs. After some deliberation, he selected the town of Linlithgow as a fit spot for his purpose. Having obtained possession of a house in a narrow part of the street, he prepared it secretly for his purpose. He chose an upper room, with a wooden balcony in front, which should prevent his being readily seen from the street; and, lest his shadow should be observed, he hung the apartment with black. That he might make no noise, he placed a feather bed upon the floor. The door towards the street was shut, and the whole was considered as an empty house. In the mean while the Regent was at Stirling, and it was known that he was speedily about to go to Edinburgh, in which case he must pass through Linlithgow. He accordingly arrived there on horseback, well attended, and the populace crowded around to see the cavalcade. When the Regent arrived at the narrow part of the street, Hamilton, unperceived, took his aim. The ball passed through the body of the Earl of Murray, and killed the horse immediately beyond him. The Regent fell, and soon afterwards expired. In the mean while all eyes were turned to the window from which the shot came, and an attempt was made to enter the house; but the door being strongly barricaded occasioned considerable delay. When it was at last broke open, the marks were found of deliberate preparation, and it was discovered

that the assassin had escaped by the back part of the house, a part of the garden-wall having been broken down to permit the admission of a fleet horse, upon which he escaped, and which some of his kindred, to whom the enterprise was known, had kept in readiness for him. The event was of great political importance, and made much noise in Europe. Hamilton fled to France, where the court was hostile to the Protestant party, of which Murray had been the head in Scotland. The courtiers there imagined that Hamilton would be a fit person to be employed in the assassination of the celebrated Admiral Coligny, the chief of the French Protestant party. They thought they could not apply to a more proper person than a man who had just committed an act of the same kind in his own country. A man of rank accordingly suggested the project. Hamilton, shocked at the proposal, cried out, "What, villain! do you suppose me an assassin?" and challenged him on the spot."

At Linlithgow, as the weather was rainy, I procured a tolerably good post-chaise and pair for Falkirk. Posting in this part of Scotland is 1*s.* 6*d.* a mile. The country through which I passed is well cultivated and finely wooded, and has much beauty to boast of. Falkirk is a village delightfullly situated upon an eminence, the prospect from

which, in several directions, is very picturesque, which suffers occasionally by the smoke of the adjoining Carron Works. This town has a very commodious and handsome inn, and is principally known for its great cattle-fairs, to which thirty thousand and fifty thousand head of cattle have been frequently brought: of course the value of pasture grass in the vicinity is very high. Here I first observed that the town-crier in Scotland awakens the attention of the people to his notice by a previous roll of the drum. Near this town is the field of battle in which William Wallace and the English fought in the beginning of the fourteenth century. It still goes by the name of Graham's Muir, from the valiant John Graham, who fell there, and who was buried in the church-yard of Falkirk.

Having been presented with a letter of introduction to Mr. Gibson, the agent of the Carron Company, I set off with my credentials to these celebrated iron-works, about two miles and a half from Falkirk. In my way I crossed the Great Canal, which, passing through the heart of the country, unites the Forth with the Clyde. This noble undertaking, after much dispute between the merchants of Glasgow and the nobility and gentry of the country, with respect to what its size should be, was at length completed, and a navigation opened from sea to sea, on the 28th

July, 1790. The following are the dimensions of the canal:—

	Miles.
Length of the Navigation from the Forth to the Clyde . .	35
Length of the collateral Cut to Glasgow	2¼
From Port Dundas to the Bason of the Monkland Canal . .	1
	38¼

It passes over ten considerable aqueduct bridges, and upwards of thirty smaller ones, or tunnels, and is crossed by thirty-three drawbridges. Vessels of nineteen feet beam, sixty-eight feet keel, and drawing eight feet water, can pass through it from one end to the other. The proprietors of the Carron Foundery are a chartered company, with a capital of 150,000*l.* sterling, which is divided into six hundred shares. These works, which are said to be the greatest of the kind in Europe, are conveniently situated on the classical banks of the Carron, three miles above its entry into the Forth, and were established in 1760. The buildings in which they are carried on cover a great extent of ground; and the flame, smoke, and heat of the furnaces, and sable hue of the artificers, gave me a lively idea of the description we have of the lower regions. Cannon, shot, shells, and anchors, to augment the desolations of war, and grates, pots, and pans, to promote the comforts of the kitchen, are supplied from this enormous manufactory. The cannon-foundery is highly deserving of notice. The boring is performed by curious machinery, moved by

water; the motion necessary for polishing is also effected in the same manner. In the rooms where the latter operation was carrying on, I saw cannon of great weight removed from one place to another, with the greatest facility, by the aid of mechanic principles. Russia used formerly to be supplied with her cannon and anchors from these works; and at one period, I was informed, these works have made above five thousand pieces of ordnance a year, many of which used to be exported to foreign states. The number of men employed within the walls amounts to about one thousand. The funds of the company, with every fair allowance for the effects of the present war upon the works, are still in a flourishing condition; and the establishment is a source of great opulence to the surrounding country. The Carron (which means the winding stream) flows up to these works. This river is small, but remarkable in history for the sanguinary events which have occurred in the neighbourhood of its waters. History records a bloody battle, fought near its banks, between the Romans and the confederate army of the Scots and Picts, in the fifth century. Ossian has made its banks the scene of some of his poems. The battle between Wallace and the English, before mentioned, was in its vicinity; and the ancient ballad of Gil Morice, upon which the tragedy of Douglas was founded, mentions that the mother of the unfortunate young hero lived "on Carron side." This river abounds with trout, remarkable for its size and flavour.

In the neighbourhood of the Carron Works is the house of Kinnaird, in which Bruce, the Abyssinian traveller, resided.

In my way to Stirling I passed through the Forest of Torwood, in which the stump of an old oak is shewn, celebrated for being the venerable relick of the tree under which Wallace once concealed himself after the battle. In another part of the forest is an ancient tower, called by his name. The ride is extremely pleasant all the way to the capital of Stirlingshire, the approach to which, from Falkirk, is very beautiful. The principal street of Stirling, which is broad and handsome, and has several good shops in it, ascends a considerable hill, at the western end of which is the Castle, standing upon a precipitous rock, which at a distance gives this city a very obvious resemblance to Edinburgh. The houses appear to be ancient, and some of them were, no doubt, splendid in their time. The palace of the Earl of Marr, Regent of Scotland, built (but never finished) in 1570, still remains, and is very singular in its appearance. When the Earl of Marr assumed the disposal of the revenues of the rich and celebrated Abbey of Cambuskenneth, which formerly stood where a small village, called the Abbey, has since been erected, to the north-east of Stirling, he carried away the stones of the holy fabric to build this house with. As I

was looking at it, I was much pleased with an act of courtesy from a gentleman and his lady, who were total strangers to me; they invited me to accompany them to their garden adjoining, to partake of some fruit, which I found to be very good, and, on that account, somewhat of a rarity. As the Castle of Stirling has been celebrated for ages, and, like the city and its vicinity, often the theatre of events of the greatest importance in Scottish history, I paid an early visit to that venerable pile, and was much disappointed upon finding every part of it converted into barracks. This castle is of great antiquity, but the date of the present structure I have not been able to learn. During their perambulations through the kingdom, the Scottish sovereigns often resided and held their courts in this castle, and at length it became a fixed royal residence, after the accession of the Stuart family to the crown of Scotland, from the Princes of which family it received various augmentations.

A noble hall, called the Parliament-house, was built by James III., who was much attached to this place: it now forms a part of the barracks; and the chapel-royal adjoining, erected by Pope Alexander VI., which ranked as the richest collegiate church in the kingdom, has experienced a similar fate. James IV. was born here; and James V., and the unhappy Mary, were crowned here. In many a page of her melancholy history this castle is men-

tioned, either as a place of retreat for herself, or a prison for her friends. In this castle also the son of James IV. had been so long immured, that he had but a very faint recollection of his father's person, and actually mistook Admiral Wood for him, bursting into tears when informed of his error. This castle was often the scene of royal frolic and festivity, as the appearance of the adjoining grounds sufficiently denotes. In the time of James V. a curious and ridiculous experiment was tried from the Castle-walls. That monarch was much attached to an Italian Friar, whom he preferred to the priory of Tongueland; this man, who was an alchymist, a physician, a projector, and a philosopher, was uncommonly popular at the Scottish court, where he was believed capable of supernatural achievements. At length he pretended that he had the power of flying, and proposed to gratify his royal patron and his courtiers with an aërial ascension. The day was fixed, the Italian appeared with his wings, which he had constructed with great care, and in the presence of the court, assembled on the occasion, he mounted one of the battlements, spread his plumes, and vaulted into the air, and, amidst the loud laugh and derision of every one present, fell headlong into a dunghill, affording a new subject for the keen satire of William Dunbar, the Poet.

The poor Abbot, to mitigate the severity of the derision

which his failure had excited, solemnly protested that he should have succeeded, had he not unfortunately intermingled the feathers of dunghill fowls, which cannot keep upon the wing, with those of eagles and nobler birds.

Many additions were made to the Castle, the last by Queen Anne; and a battery on the south side bears her name. In 1746 this fortress resisted the utmost efforts of the rebels; but, in the present improved state of the art of war, it would not be able to hold out for three days against a few thousand men, supported by able engineers. At the base of the rock on which the Castle stands, in a marshy spot, were formerly the royal gardens, vestiges of which still appear. A mound of earth, in shape resembling a table, with seats of earth around it, in which the Fêtes Champetres, given by the court, were held, is still visible.

The view from the summit of this rock commands, in various directions, scenes which cannot fail of exciting interest in the lovers of the bold and picturesque, and in those who are acquainted with the most extraordinary events in Scottish history. The former will contemplate with admiration the meanders of the Forth, from its source, near Lochlomond, bathing the shores of Stirlingshire, Linlithgow, and the Lothians, on the south, and those of Perthshire, Clackmannan, and Fife, on the north, and the lofty long

line of natural defence which the Grampians, the Ochills, and the Pentland-hills present; and the latter will, with a sigh, wander over the remaining impressions of Roman encampments, and military stations, through the extent of Strathmore, and the Wall of Agricola, between the Forth and the Clyde. In Bannockburn, Cambuskenneth, and Pinkie, he will trace the shores of the Forth; he will reflect upon the vicissitudes of the wars which here so long raged between the Scottish and the English nation; whilst the Hill of Largo, in Fife, rises as a monument of the Danish invasion. As I was roving towards the inn, at the foot of the rock on which the Castle stands, my attention was attracted to a pretty lassie at her toilette. My fashionable countrywomen will wonder to hear how simple it was; she was seated by the side of a *burn*, that is, a rivulet, *snooding* her hair; which done, she put on her shoes and stockings, and went into the town. The windings of the Forth present a very extraordinary appearance, resembling the folds of a vast serpent, or rather a watery labyrinth. These meanders are so numerous, that although, by land, the distance to Alloa is only eight miles, and in a direct line not quite six miles, it is no less than twenty-four by water. I must confess I am not amongst the admirers of the Forth at this place. Its windings impart to the surrounding scenery through which it flows a cold, marshy, and agueish appearance.

The tides of this river exhibit an extraordinary phenomenon, which I believe does not occur in any other. For several miles above and below Clackmannan, in the shire of that name, invariably, during the recess tides, if the weather is favourable, and sometimes also during the spring tides, if the weather is unusally fine, after the water has flowed for three hours, it runs back for an hour and a half, nearly as far as when it began to flow, upon which it returns immediately, and flows during another hour and a half, as high as before; and this change takes place both in the flood and ebb tides, so that this river has double the number of tides of any other. The sailors call it a leaky tide. No one has attempted to account for it.

The Carse of Stirling is generally considered to be a level ground, and it is thought that the waters of the Forth are flowed over it; in corroboration of its appearance, some years since a complete boat was found near Falkirk, five fathoms deep in clay, and anchors have been dug up between Stirling and Alloa. The great church of Stirling is an ancient cathedral of Gothic architecture, erected by James V. in 1494, but long since denuded of its ornaments. When General Monk besieged the castle in 1651, he raised his batteries in the church-yard, and the steeple and roof of the church still exhibit the marks of bullets, discharged from the garrison. The neighbourhood abounds with beautiful

walks, and the remains of many a venerable and holy pile.

The Tolbooth is an old and defective prison, and the new one then building appeared to me to be insecure in its construction, and objectionable in its design. In the old prison, to the credit of the county, there were only two smugglers, and a few debtors. In this place I was shewn a small vessel, called the Jug, which is the legal standard of dry measure in Scotland; the firlot, for barley, malt, and oats, ought to contain thirty-one times the cubical contents of this jug. I cannot help here lamenting the deplorable situation of two miserable maniacs, whom I presume, for want of other accommodation, I found immured in two gloomy damp caves, the gates of which opened towards the street, and, from the appearance of the earth before them, looked as if they had not been opened for a long time, the windows on the other side being used to introduce their food. One of these unfortunate wretches was frequently raving, and had, according to the report of the gaoler, been confined nearly for six years, during the winters of which he had been kept warm only by the fever that raged within his frame; for during that period, by being permitted to use his hands when the madness raged upon him, he scarcely ever kept any clothes on his body. The other instance was more shocking, because, with medical care and tender treatment, the chances were highly in favour of recovery.

This unhappy being had been committed for setting a stack of hay on fire, was found to be insane at times, and had for two years been shut up in this horrible dungeon. These things are entitled to serious investigation. In mitigation of these unfortunate cases, Stirling is well known to contain within its walls many most humane and opulent institutions, of various descriptions, for the relief of the destitute and miserable. A whimsical instance of primitive calculation is recorded to have taken place in this town. When the knowledge of writing and arithmetic was in its infancy in Scotland, the old treasurer of the town of Stirling used to keep his accounts by the assistance of an old pair of boots, which were suspended on each side of his chimney. In one of them he deposited all the money he received, and in the other the receipts or vouchers for the sums which he had paid, and balanced his accounts at the end of the year by throwing out the contents of his boots, and comparing the one with the other. Here are all sorts of sectaries; Churchmen, Papists, Highflyers, Glassites, Cameronians, Whitfieldites, Glassites Episcopalian, Independents, Unitarians, Arminians, Burghers, Antiburghers, Calvinists, Haldanites, Socinians, Universal Redemptionists, &c.; and a follower of the Church of England is a little surprised, upon his first visit in Scotland, to find that he professes a religion which is only tolerated.

Considerable tartan manufactures for the Highlanders were

once carried on in Stirling to a great extent, but they are now much reduced. There are several carpet-manufactories in a very flourishing state, and weaving is carried on to a considerable extent; there is also a very productive salmon-fishery on the Forth. There is a capital inn here. Stirling has given birth to some distinguished literary men, viz. Dr. Robert Pollock, an eminent writer, and the First Principal of the University of Edinburgh: Dr. Henry, author of the History of Great Britain: and Dr. Moore, author of a View of Society and Manners in Italy, Zeluco, &c. and father of the gallant General Sir John Moore. The Grammar-school of Stirling has been long celebrated; and many persons, who have afterwards raised themselves to notice in the world, have received their education in it.

CHAP. XIV.

ALLOA—RUMBLING BRIG—DEVIL'S PULPIT—LOCHLEVEN—SINGULAR SIEGE—ANECDOTES OF QUEEN MARY—LOVE TRIUMPHANT—KINROSS—ANECDOTES OF MICHAEL BRUCE—ECCE TIBUR—PERTH—HISTORICAL ANECDOTES—GOWRIE'S HOUSE—SINGULAR MISTAKE—THE BRIDGE OF PERTH—BESSY BELL AND MARY GRAY—MANUFACTURES OF PERTH—THE PRISON—ANECDOTE OF A FEMALE CONVERT—A REMARK UPON TRANSPORTATION.

FROM Stirling I set off for Kinross. After a very delightful drive, I dined at Alloa, at an admirable new inn, just opened, which merits every encouragement from travellers. Alloa is a sea-port, and much known for its many whisky-distilleries, ale-breweries, collieries, and glass-houses. Mr. Erskine, a descendant of the Earls of Marr, has a fine park and large estate here, upon which there was a noble mansion, called Marr-house, lately burnt down. Upon this estate there is timber equal to any in age and size in England. This gentleman has greatly improved the value of the surrounding country by his liberal and successful experiments in agriculture. I was disappointed in the Tower of Alloa, which ranks

amongst the antiquities of the country, but which appears to be interesting only on account of its great age. It is a square building, with four round towers, and was erected at the end of the year 1300: the walls are eleven feet thick, and the highest turret is eighty-nine feet from the ground. This building was formerly the residence of the Erskines, Earls of Marr; it is now uninhabited. The noble family of Erskine, for more than two centuries, had the honour of having many of the Scottish Princes for their wards, and of directing their education. They generally held the Castle of Stirling, and frequently the three principal fortresses of the kingdom, viz. Edinburgh, Stirling, and Dumbarton. The family are in possession of several tokens of antiquity, which prove the great affection and confidence which existed between the Stuarts and the Erskines.

In my way to Kinross I visited the Rumbling Brig, which lies on the left, a little way out of the road. It consists of a slender one-arch bridge, which strides over a narrow rocky abyss, both sides of which are covered with wood, about ninety feet deep, through which the river Devon rolls impetuously over the rocks below. About a mile further is the Caudron Linn, which has two large falls. The water rolls into two large cavities, hollowed out of the rock, and which, owing to the exasperated foam of the

waters, resemble two boiling caldrons. One of the caldrons is called the *Devil's Pulpit*. I have always observed, in my rambles, that whatever is vast, horrible, and unprofitable, is given to the devil for its author. His satanic majesty would find a good purchaser for his property in a man of taste, and a bad one in a man of business.

In my way to Kinross, I asked a peasant what the hour was; his answer was, "Half to six;" by which he meant half past five. A German would have expresssd himself in the same manner.

The road is worse than any turnpike-road in Scotland, and the tolls are higher. The approach to the town is extremely agreeable; and, as the evening of my arrival was singularly beautiful, I, without loss of time, proceeded to the lake, for the purpose of visiting the insulated Castle of Lochleven, interesting to every feeling mind on account of its having been the prison of Mary. The boy I brought with me to return with the gig, which I had hired at Stirling, seemed very desirous of being permitted to accompany me, and appeared to be tolerably well acquainted with the melancholy history of the royal sufferer. The lake is about twelve miles in circumference, and is bounded by a number of hills. There is an air of gloom about the whole of the scene which accords with its interesting story. We

rowed by the isle of St. Serf, or Servanus, containing about thirty-six acres, upon which are the remains of an ancient priory.

I soon afterwards landed on the isle, upon which the ruins of the Castle stand. This gloomy solitude is not more than two acres in extent; close to the water were some ancient trees: we entered within its walls, which nearly form a square. The principal tower is a square building, standing upon the north wall, near its north-west corner, and there is a smaller tower at the south-east. We passed through a very small door into the square tower, in which there is a deep dungeon, and above a vaulted room. This gloomy and venerable pile is of great antiquity, and is mentioned as early as 1334, when it was besieged by Sir John De Sterling, with a number of English and Scottish troops, who, to accelerate the fall of the garrison, built a strong and high dam, so as to stop the stream of the river Leven, which ran eastward out of the lake, which being thus shut up, its waters increased upon the isles, and the garrison was threatened with a watery grave. Whilst this shocking system of attack was advancing, the day for the celebration of the blessed Margaret, Queen of Scotland, at Dunfermline, approached; and the Commander, with many of his soldiers, attended, and assisted at the solemnity. During their absence, four resolute men put off in the night

in a small boat; and, without being observed by the troops that remained to prosecute the siege, after great labour, and many an ardent invocation of St. Servanus, the protector of the lake, they at last effected a breach in the dam, and turned upon the enemy their own weapon: the water, thus liberated, rushed out like a torrent, and swept away their tents and baggage; and, during the confusion, the Governor of the Castle, Alan de Vipont, and his garrison, embarked, attacked and put the besiegers to flight, and delivered themselves from the English yoke.

This tale alone would have imparted to the hoary walls an interest; but, as the prison boundaries of the hapless Mary, curiosity about them became allied to sensibility. After she had separated from Bothwell at Carberry, and surrendered herself up to the confederate Lords, she was conveyed to this secluded fortress, and placed under the custody of the wife of Douglas, of Lochleven, the mother of Murray, the natural son of James V., who afterwards became Regent. This woman, who had asserted that she had been lawfully married to James, that her son was the heir to the Scottish crown, and Mary illegitimate, cherished an unrelenting hatred against her lovely and unfortunate prisoner, who endured from her and her son every rigour and insult which could increase the wretchedness of a captivity in which she languished for many months, and was forced to sign an

instrument by which she resigned her crown to her infant son, and appointed Murray Regent, who assumed the reins of government, but soon disgusted his partisans by the insolence of his deportment. The effect of such conduct imparted new life to the friends of Mary, who made many attempts to deliver her from her gloomy captivity, but in vain. However, love effected what valour, moved by commiseration, could not achieve; and the bolts and bars of her prison yielded to the influence of her beauty and address. George Douglas, the brother of her keeper, a youth of eighteen, became deeply enamoured with her. Mary knew how to feed the flame she had kindled by every tender and bewitching blandishment. The youth resolved upon her deliverance; and, having imparted his scheme to others, on Sunday, the 2d of May, 1568, whilst his brother was at supper, and the rest of the family were engaged in their devotions, he stole the keys from his brother's chamber, opened the gates, which he re-locked, and conveyed the Queen and a female attendant to the only boat belonging to the island, in which they were rowed to the opposite shore. In their passage he threw the keys into the lake. Scarcely had they departed when an alarm was given, and lights were seen moving in all directions, but no boat was to be had. Upon the Queen's landing she was received with unbounded joy by Lord Seaton, Sir James Hamilton, and some attendants, and immediately mounted a horse, and rode full speed

to Niddrie, the seat of Lord Seaton, in East Lothian, where she arrived in perfect safety, when, after resting for three days, she proceeded to Hamilton, which place she reached early the next morning. After this romantic flight the battle of Langside was fought, which ended in the defeat of her adherents; upon which she fled to England, where the meekness with which she endured her unexampled sufferings, and the heroic dignity with which she obeyed the sanguinary order of the remorseless tyrant, who closed them upon the scaffold, have wakened the pity and admiration of more than two centuries. Not long since, some keys were drawn out of the lake by some fishermen, supposed to be those which the enamoured Douglas threw into it, but I am informed they are too small to have belonged to the gates of the fortress.

The lake is also celebrated for its trout, which is very large; its flesh much resembles that of salmon, and is of a bright pink, or reddish, colour, which is supposed to arise from the vast quantity of small red-coloured shell-fish which abound in the bottom of the loch, and particularly amongst the aquatic plants, of which there are vast quantities. Their stomachs are often found full of this fish. It has been ascertained that the flesh of all the different species of river-trout, which is at first always white, becomes red in this lake when the fish grows to a tolerable

size. This lake, which receives the contribution of several little rivers, gives rise to the river Leven, which disembogues itself in the sea, after passing through a considerable part of Fifeshire. As we were returning, the house and grounds of Mr. Graham, who is absent in India, were pointed out to me; they form a part of the northern side of the loch, and have a very handsome appearance from the water. This house was built by Sir William Bruce, a celebrated architect, in 1685.

Kinross is a small town, and the capital of the tiny shire which bears its name. It is a royal burgh. Most of the houses have neat little kitchen-gardens belonging to them, and some have plantations of trees, presenting altogether an agreeable scene. The inn in the town is tolerably comfortable; I there tasted some of the trout I have described, the flavour of which was very fine. This fish is esteemed as a great delicacy at Edinburgh and Perth, and in all the towns to which the distance of carriage will admit of its being conveyed in a state of freshness.

The shores of Lochleven gave birth to Bruce, the Poet, the elegance and tenderness of whose song cannot fail to please and affect the mind. I cannot do better than describe him in the feeling manner in which he is mentioned

in No. 36 of the Mirror:—"This Michael Bruce was born in a remote village in Kinross-shire, and descended from parents remarkable for nothing but the innocence and simplicity of their lives: in the 21st year of his age he was seized with a consumption, which put an end to his life. Nothing, methinks, has more the power of awakening benevolence, than the consideration of genius thus depressed by situation, suffered to pine in obscurity, and sometimes, as in the case of this unfortunate young man, to perish, it may be, for want of those comforts and conveniencies which might have fostered a delicacy of frame, or of mind, ill calculated to bear the hardships which poverty lays on both. For my own part, I never pass the place (a little hamlet, skirted with a circle of old ash trees, about three miles on this side of Kinross) where Michael Bruce resided, I never look on his dwelling, a small thatched house, distinguished from the cottages of the inhabitants only by a sashed window at the end, instead of a lattice, fringed with a honeysuckle plant, which the poor youth had trained around it, I never find myself in that spot, but I stop my horse involuntarily; and looking on the window, which the honeysuckle has now almost covered, in the dream of the moment I picture out a gentle figure for the tenant of the mansion; I wish, and my heart swells while I do so, that he were alive, and that I were a great man, to have the luxury of

visiting him there, and bidding him be happy." This amiable youth and sweet Poet has feelingly depicted the melancholy illness that brought him to the grave.

> " Starting and shiv'ring in the unconstant wind,
> Meagre, and pale, the ghost of what I was,
> Beneath some blasted tree I lie reclin'd,
> And count the silent moments as they pass,—
>
> The winged moments, whose unstaying speed
> No art can stop, or in their course arrest;
> Whose flight shall shortly count me with the dead,
> And lay me down in peace with them to rest."

In this little town there are no less than three schools, in each of which writing and accounts are taught, at *three shillings* per annum for each pupil. Some small cotton-manufactories are carried on here. This place is a great thoroughfare, being placed in the high road to Perth, between which and Queen's Ferry it is equidistant. It furnished me with a gig for the former place, distant about fifteen English miles; this mode of conveyance I was invited to adopt by the fineness of the weather.

The road to Perth is extremely good, and the country presented an appearance of increased luxuriance and cultivation as I advanced. Woods and corn-fields, hill and dale, every where gladdened the eye; and the looks and habits of the peasantry seemed to correspond with the flourishing gaiety of the surrounding scenery. The superb plain

of Gowrie, extending for nearly twenty miles, opened in the most unexpected and beautiful manner. A short distance from Perth, where I made the sketch annexed, the windings of the Tay, the bridge uniting the rich and romantic country on either side, the handsome appearance of the town, the cavalry barracks, and an expanded view behind, offer to the eye the most enchanting prospect. When Agricola and his army first beheld the Tay, and the adjacent plain, upon which Perth at present stands, it is recorded that they exclaimed, with one voice, " Ecce Tibur! Ecce Campus Martius! Behold the Tiber! Behold the Field of Mars!"—The Italians afterwards called the Tay the New Tiber.

This river, which deservedly excited the eulogium of the Roman legions, is the chief of all the Scottish waters, and has its source in the western extremity of Perthshire, in the district of Breadalbane, on the frontiers of Lorn, in Argyleshire.

With an exception of the New Town Edinburgh, the town of Perth, the capital of the county of Perthshire, is by far the best built and most regular of any in Scotland. Perhaps a finer situation for a capital could not be found. The streets are broad and long, well paved, with handsome buildings on either side, and many elegant shops. It ap-

pears that anciently particular streets were inhabited by particular artisans, as the names of some, still preserved, seem to indicate. The inns are excellent. It would be tedious, and foreign to my purpose, to describe this beautiful city very minutely; it will be sufficient to observe, that the principal streets, in the old part of the town, are the High and the South street, both of which are very long, and that George-street, Charlotte-street, the Crescent, Rose Terrace, and the Circus, are the most handsome in the new part. This town has been subject to some very destructive inundations, which have caused the streets to be raised from time to time. Many stories, and even whole houses, are to be found below the surface of the street.

The Crescent forms a beautiful curve, and looks towards the North Inch, a lawn of the greenest pasture, forming the Race-Course, and watered by the Tay. This spot is much resorted to as a promenade, and is frequently embellished with many elegant and well-dressed ladies, and at the same time disfigured by the linen-washerwomen. On the Rose Terrace, to the northward of the Crescent, stands an elegant building, which was nearly finished, containing the halls and apartments of the public seminaries. This highly ornamental building has been erected by subscription, many of the donations of which are truly noble. The schools of this city have been long very justly cele-

brated, and have afforded education to many distinguished persons, amongst whom the people of Perth, with infinite pride, reckon James Crichton, whose wonderful endowments, both of body and mind, obtained him the appellation of "the admirable Crichton," and ranked him as the wonder of his species, and the eloquent, learned, and refined Lord Mansfield, who, after obtaining at the British bar, by the invincible powers of his oratory, the name of "the silver-tongued Murray," filled the dignified office of Chief Justice with a splendour of ability that will shed lustre upon his country for ages to come. The pupils at these seminaries are very numerous, and come from various parts of Great Britain and Ireland. The system of education, the skill of the masters, the salubrity of the climate, the good morals of the people, and the cheapness of provisions, contribute to render the schools of this town of the first consideration to parents in the disposal of their children. Perth presents another instance of the literary inclination of the Scottish people. It has a Literary and Antiquarian Society, founded in 1784. There is a public library; and there are also several excellent booksellers' shops. One of the principal curiosities now remaining in this town is St. John's Church, a very large and ancient structure, now divided into three churches, called the East, the Middle, and the West Kirks. In this church John Knox preached an animated discourse against the

idolatry of the Church of Rome. After the sermon, and when the most respectable citizens had retired to dinner, an enthusiastic priest was indiscreet enough to prepare to celebrate Mass, which so inflamed those who had not retired, and those who returned to the spot upon hearing of it, that they attacked the priest, destroyed his images and relicks, and, extending their rage to the neighbouring monasteries of the Gray and Black Friars, and the Carthusians, nearly levelled them with the earth. Upon hearing of these outrages, Queen Mary dispatched an army of seven thousand men to subdue the insurgents; but both parties being of considerable strength, terms of accommodation were mutually offered and accepted. A treaty was signed, which the Queen, who entered Perth in consequence of it, has the reputation of having broken, by introducing French troops into the city after the Protestant forces had been dismissed. At this juncture, as Patrick Murray, one of the reformers, with his family, was viewing the French soldiers, as they marched into the town, from the balcony of their house, some of the troops fired several shots at the place, and killed his son, a boy about eleven years old. When his dead body was pointed out to the Queen, historians assert, that, such is the influence of religious hostility, she displayed the greatest want of feeling. The people of Perth again revolted: Knox once more inspired them with holy zeal against their

oppressors, and victory was on the side of the people. In the midst of the tumult the exasperated populace demolished the noble abbey and palace of Scone, which stood in the neighbourhood. These differences, and the advantages obtained against the religion of the Church of Rome, led to the final triumphs of the Reformation. As soon as the people felt their power, they were not content with the mere toleration of their religion, but, headed by Knox, Willcocks, and others, men of vigorous minds and powerful persuasion, well suited to the times in which they flourished, at length succeeded in making their worship the established religion of the kingdom.

Gowrie-house, so celebrated in history, was, till very lately, standing. I saw merely the basement of some part of it, the remainder having been pulled down the preceding summer, to make room for some other buildings. The walls of the part which remained are of a prodigious thickness. It was erected by the Countess of Huntley, in 1520, and in 1746 was presented by the magistrates to the Duke of Cumberland, who afterwards sold it to government for barracks. It was famed for being the theatre of the Gowrie conspiracy, one of the most mysterious events in the annals of Scotland.

As I have mentioned that the Duke of Cumberland was

owner of this pile, it may not be unpleasant to my readers to peruse a ridiculous circumstance which occurred in this town, soon after the events which induced the magistrates to present this house to the royal Commander. Robertson, of Strowan, whose poetical talent is well known, was, at an advanced age of life, the Chief of a Clan, at the head of which he fought, in the unhappy conflict of 1745, against the royal troops at Preston Pans, who there sustained a signal defeat. The old Chieftain obtained for his share of the booty the carriage of Sir John Cope, the Commander in Chief, which he drove as far as he could towards the district of Rannock; and when the roads became impassable for the carriage, his vassals carried it into Rannock, where he began to examine its contents; and finding, amongst other things, several rolls of a brown colour, which, as they were in a soldier's carriage, he concluded must be valuable specifics for wounds, he ordered them to be sold in the streets of Perth, and his vassals went about crying, "Wha'll buy Jonny Cope's salve?" The salve proved upon trial to be rolls of chocolate.

The bridge of Perth is a simple and elegant, but strong, structure, which opens a communication with different great roads of the kingdom; it was finished in 1771, by subscription. It was designed and executed by Mr. Smeaton. Its entire length is nine hundred feet, and its breadth only twenty-

two within the parapets: it is subject to obvious objections on that account; and its narrowness is such, that there is no foot-path on the northern side. The piers are founded ten feet beneath the bed of the river, upon oaken and beechen piles, and the stones laid in puzzalane, and cramped with iron. It has nine arches, of which the centre is seventy-five feet in diameter. The sum of 26,000*l.* was expended on this noble and useful work. The Commissioners of Forfeited Estates, by his Majesty's permission, contributed 11,000*l.*, Perth 2,000*l.*, Royal Borough 500*l.*, Private Subscribers 4,756*l.*; but, notwithstanding these liberal contributions, the building could not have been completed, had not the late Earl of Kinnoul, who had retired from the tumult and cares of public life, after having essentially served his country as a diplomatic representative, with great public spirit advanced the remaining sum required, and taken the tolls for a security. The debt thus contracted has since been discharged, and the toll abolished.

The village of Bridgend, long time inconsiderable and neglected, has participated in the great public advantage derived from this structure, and is now a very flourishing appendage of the beautiful capital on the opposite shore.

The environs of Perth afford many subjects for admiration. On the northern bank of the river, opposite to the

Hill of Moncrief, is the towering Crag of Kinnoul. These two hills seem to be rivals in form and grandeur; between these the Tay winds with equal majesty and beauty, enlivened by ships moving up and down, and reflecting on its bosom a series of neat cottages, handsome villas, gardens, rising woods, flourishing plantations, and rich waving cornfields. Every point of view is at once picturesque, happy, social, and civilized. A great part of this county abounds with the fossil treasures of nature. From the summit of Moncrief-hill, turning eastward, may be seen the Frith of Tay, the rich Carse of Gowry, and the populous northern coast of Fife; to the westward, Upper Strathern, and Strath-Tay *. Wild heaths, and full-grown woods and cultivated grounds, banquet the eye with contrasted character. The prospect from Kinnoul-hill, though less extensive, is thought to be more beautiful than from that of Moncrief. From the former, the eye, delighted, ranges over the vast plain of Strathmere, the Grampian Mountains, the windings of the Tay, Perth and its gay environs, the coast of Fife, and the German Ocean. There are several hand-

* Strath is an expression peculiar to the Highlands, and more particularly applies to the North Highlands. From the great centrical mountains which run from south to north descend a series of others in connection, and running parallel to each other, towards the east and west seas; the openings between these parallel mountains are called Straths, and form distinct districts, and are generally watered by considerable meres, as Strathern, Strathmere, Strath-Tay, &c.

some mansions to be met with in these excursions, the principal of which is Duplin-house, the seat of Lord Kinnoul.

The ride to Methven is also well worth the exertion of the traveller, particularly of the romantic wanderer, who, in this ramble, near to the bridge of Dalcrue, may

"From rose and hawthorn shake the tear,"

upon the grave of Bessy Bell and Mary Gray, so celebrated in Scottish song. The tradition which loves to dwell upon the memory of these unfortunate young ladies relates that the father of Miss Bell was Laird of Kinvaid, in the neighbourhood of Lednoch; that the girls were both very beautiful, and loved each other with all the ardour of romantic friendship; that the plague broke out in 1666, when Miss Bell was visiting Miss Gray, to escape the contagion of which they erected for themselves a bower, about three quarters of a mile west from Lednoch-house, in a secluded spot, called Burn-braes, on the side of Brauchie-burn, where they resided in the happy society of each other for some time, till at length the pestilence spreading with great fury, they imbibed it from a young gentleman, who, with a liberality of love somewhat uncommon, was enamoured of them both; and that in this sylvan asylum they perished, and were buried in another part of Mr. Gray's ground, called the Dronach Haugh, at the foot of a brae of the same name, near the bank of the river of Almond.

The staple manufacture of Perth is linen, which, it is said, was at first insensibly established by several itinerant merchants, who used to travel through the Highlands to Perth and its vicinity, and, having acquired some little property by their erratic enterprise, at length settled as shopkeepers at Perth, and augmented the industry of the city by their little capitals and their experience. The linen manufacture was also not a little indebted to the trustees of the forfeited estates, (part of the rents of which were applicable to the improvements of the country,) who encouraged the culture of lint, and the spinning of linen-yarn. The salmon-fisheries of the river are very extensive. Fish packed in ice are sent to London every spring and part of the summer, and there used to be a considerable exportation to the ports of the Mediterranean. So abundant are the fisheries, that three thousand salmon have been caught in one morning, weighing altogether eight-and-forty thousand pounds. The cotton-manufactures are also in a flourishing condition; and cotton-mills, bleach-fields, and print-fields, have been erected and formed in various situations in and adjoining to the city. The agricultural improvements of the country are coincident with the progress of its manufactures; and wheat, barley, and other kinds of grain, are annually exported to London and Edinburgh, to a large amount. Owing to the vicinity of the Highlands, manufactures of doe-skins and buck-skins have been also established; and tallow, bees-wax, dressed sheep-skins, dressed and raw

calf-skins, and raw goat-skins, are shipped from this place; boots, shoes, and gloves, are also manufactured in large quantities. Paper-mills too are established here.

Much of the prosperity and opulence of Perth are traceable to those causes which seldom produce any thing but desolation and poverty. In those unhappy times of public broil, which so frequently occur in Scottish history, this town was occasionally occupied by opposing armies, which rendered it a market for every necessary commodity. Dealers created capitals, and, by their prudence and enterprize, laid the foundation of all the good fortune which has attended this city since the Union.

The prevailing religion is High Calvinism, and the places of worship are numerous. The inhabitants have a high character for sobriety and decorum of manners. Owing to the number of people of rank and respectability, in commerce and trade, in the city and its vicinity, the streets are frequently enlivened with elegant equipages. The style of living is very handsome, and the ladies dress with considerable taste and fashion. On a Sunday I observed the philibeg worn, but not generally. The whole of this delightful place and its environs strongly reminded me of the city of Bonn, on the left bank of the Rhine, known in that romantic region by the name of "the Little Pearl."

I inspected every part of the prison, which is subject to the objection of its having no court-yard, a defect in all the prisons of Scotland; but it is clean, well aired, and spacious, compared with the tolbooth of Edinburgh. The prison-allowance is poor. The felons were very few. The gaoler informed me that some time since a young girl received sentence of death, for some rather heinous crime; and that, upon being pressed to petition to have her punishment commuted to transportation for fourteen years, the success of which was assured to her, she for a long time persisted in preferring death to banishment, and was at last, with great difficulty, prevailed upon to sue for the exchange, which was conceded to her in pity to her youth. The principal reason, I was afterwards informed, which induced her to prefer death to banishment, arose from her having been told, what is the fact, that Government provides no means for the return of the convict sentenced to transportation, after the expiration of the sentence, so that she, in all human probability, would be transported for life. This is a point highly deserving the attention of Government, whose faith ought not to be violated even with those who, for a period, have by their delinquency forfeited all claims to its ordinary protection. In the front of this prison is the following whimsical inscription:—"This house loves peace, hates knaves, crimes punisheth, preserves the laws, and good men honoureth."

CHAP. XV.

SCONE—MONKISH PROPHECY—OMNIS TERRA—ROUND TOWERS—THE CARSE OF GOWRIE—FARM-SERVANTS—DUNDEE—BOETHIUS—DR. JOHNSON—ABERBROTHICK—THE ABBEY—MONTROSE—DONNOTTER-CASTLE—STONEHAVEN—ABERDEEN—EPIGRAM—THE NEW BRIDGE—THE PIER—MARISCHAL COLLEGE—DR. BEATTIE—THE PRISON—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

BEFORE I quitted Perth I visited Scone, a little village which stands about a mile and a half north of Perth, on the opposite side of the river, once famous for the royal palace which there, till very lately, gratified the curiosity of the traveller, having been the residence of the Scottish Kings, and the place where they were crowned. The Abbey I before mentioned also stood here. Upon the site, and I believe upon the foundation, of the palace of Scone, which was begun by the Earl of Gowrie, and finished by Sir David Murray, a favourite of King James VI., a magnificent Gothic mansion, of a red stone, apparently from the same quarry out of which the bridge was built, has been commenced and nearly finished by the present Lord Mansfield. The situation of this princely structure is exquisitely fine: it

is surrounded with plantations, the Tay finely meandering along the margin of the extensive lawn in which it stands, and the views in all directions, particularly towards Perth, being very beautiful. Adjoining, in a corresponding gloom of yew and fir trees, is a mausoleum of the noble family of Stormont, composed, as I was informed, of part of the aisle of the ancient abbey. It appeared to have been newly faced, and, if I remember correctly, was adorned with pinnacles. In this final depository I was informed there is a marble urn, containing the heart of a foreign lady, to whom Lord Stormont was first married, who died abroad, and requested that this pledge of her love might rest in his family cemetery. Mr. Cant observes that this Abbey was "founded by Alexander I. A. D. 1114, and was dedicated to the Trinity and Michael the Archangel. Our Kings were accustomed to be crowned here; and here the fatal marble chair in which they were crowned was kept, which was sent by Edward Longshanks to Westminster, where it still remains. Edward is supposed to have removed it to counteract an ancient prophecy, conceived in the following monkish lines:—

"Ni fallit fatum, Scoti quocunque locatum,
Invenient lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem.

"Unless old prophecies and words are vain,
Where'er this stone is found the Scots shall reign."

A prediction which the accession of James VI. to the English throne was thought to have consummated. There

is a small eminence near the house, called generally Boot-hill, and by some writers Omnis Terra, or Every Man's Land: the tradition is, that, at a coronation, each person who wished to see it brought his boots full of earth, which he emptied, and raised a little mound, which enabled him, *on his own land*, to see the ceremony. It is probable that Boot-hill is a corruption of Moot-hill, or the Hill of Meeting; and amongst the Highlanders it is known to this day by the name of Tom-a-Mhord, or the Hill of Justice.

Sudden indisposition, and the time which I lost in consequence, prevented me from seeing the Tower of Abernethy, in the town of that name, near the confluence of the Earn and Tay, distant, as I was informed, about 10 miles from Perth. There is only another building of the same kind in Scotland, viz. at Brechen. However, from the description given of both by several tourists, I should think they do not differ from the round towers which I saw at Glendaloch, and other places in Ireland.

I have seldom quitted any place with more reluctance than I did Perth. Soon after I had left it, I entered the Carse of Gowrie, the pride of the Scotch, and the admiration of every tourist. It is a long narrow plain, extending nearly from Perth to Dundee, about sixteen miles along the northern shore of the Tay, and is bounded on the north by the Sidlaw and other hills, which, sheltering it from that

quarter, afford to it a climate benign and favourable to vegetation. This vast and fertile plain, from being naturally a barren sand along the sea-shore, is composed of the finest soil, washed by heavy rains, which fall near the sources of the Tay, the Earn, the Gary, and the Tummel, from the Highlands; the naked summits of whose mountains exhibit every evidence of the spoliation. The fertility of the artificial soil thus deposited is extraordinary. There the English traveller will see English agricultural instruments and English farming almost every where adopted. As I approached Dundee, the Tay presented a magnificent expansion, and rendered the surrounding scenery of prodigal luxuriance exquisite beyond description. The mountains of the Highlands seem to have disrobed themselves to adorn these banks of the Tay, that, as it rolls along, every object may correspond with the majesty of its waters.

In the rural economy of this enchanting district, and in many parts of the Highlands, it is worthy of observation that the farm-servants are not admitted into the farmer's family, but have a separate house, adjoining to the out-offices, where they reside. Besides their wages, they have certain allowances of oatmeal, and money for salt; they have also an English pint of sweet milk, or double the quantity of butter-milk, to breakfast, dinner, and supper. The farmer also affords them fuel. Thus, whilst the Carse

resembles Arcadia in beauty, the simple food of her swains is Arcadian too. Pork and bacon, which used to be disgusting to the palate of a Highlander, form a greater portion of the food of the peasant here than in any other part of Scotland. The farmers in this district are very opulent and well informed. The road to Dundee is very good, from which many bye-roads communicate with the different villages in its neighbourhood.

Dundee is a fine town, the most considerable in Forfarshire. The houses are built of stone, the streets are well paved, and the market-place is a spacious square, from which the streets branch out; the shops are very respectable, and appear to be well supplied with every useful and ornamental article. The town-house, which stands in the market-place, is a handsome edifice of stone, erected in 1734, having a neat spire, one hundred and forty feet high. The upper story is allotted to the prisons, which, on account of their elevation, are well ventilated and secure, and the lower rooms contain the Guildhall, the Court-room, &c. The principal structure, amongst the religious houses, is St. Andrew's Church, which has an elegant spire, and, what is a great rarity in such buildings in Scotland, a fine peal of bells.

The harbour is most advantageously situated for commerce: it has been greatly improved under the liberal

care of the magistrates: vessels of the largest burden can have free access to it. At Dundee the Tay is three miles wide; but, being so well sheltered by high land, horses can cross it, at any time, in ferries that ply on either side. In consequence of the flourishing state of commerce the town is very opulent; and too much praise cannot be bestowed on the liberal and active spirit of the magistrates to render it worthy of the eminent local advantages which it possesses. The staple manufacture of the town is linen; and a great deal of canvas or sail-cloth, sack-cloth, and cotton bagging, is made here. There are also several rope-manufactories. In this place the dying of linen-yarn is brought to a greater degree of perfection than any where else in Great Britain, and affords employ for several thousand persons. The salmon-fisheries on the Tay are also very productive. This town particularly has at various eras experienced the ravages of war, during the troubles of Charles and the usurpation of Cromwell. At the time when General Monk carried it by storm, so great were its riches, in consequence of the neighbouring gentlemen having brought their moveable wealth into it as a place of security, that every private soldier in the General's army had 60*l.* sterling for his share of the spoils, which were conveyed in sixty vessels to England. The celebrated Wallace was educated here; and Hector Boece, or Boethius, the historian, was born here in 1470,

and studied with great success in the University of Paris, where he formed a lasting and honourable friendship with Erasmus. In 1500 he was recalled to Aberdeen by Bishop Elphingston, who made him Principal of that university.

Although his friend Erasmus has said of him that he knew not what it was to make a lie, it appears tolerably evident that he had a strong propensity to fiction. Dr. Johnson thus elegantly speaks of him: "The style of Boethius, though perhaps not always rigorously pure, is formed with great diligence upon ancient models, and wholly uninfected with monastic barbarity. His history is written with eloquence and vigour, but his fabulousness and credulity are justly blamed. The fabulousness, if he was the author of the fiction, is a fault for which no apology can be made; but his credulity may be excused in an age when all men were credulous. Learning was then rising in the world; but ages so long accustomed to darkness were too much dazzled with its light to see any thing distinctly. The first race of scholars in the fifteenth century, and some time after, were for the most part learning to speak rather than to think, and were therefore more studious of elegance than truth. The cotemporaries of Boethius thought it sufficient to know what the ancients had delivered. The examination of tenets and of facts was reserved for another generation."

Dundee was also the place of nativity of the late gallant Lord Duncan. This town, like Perth, displays a strong passion for literature and education. Besides a public grammar-school, it has English schools, in which, under able masters, the useful and elegant branches of learning are taught. The inns are good here. The neighbourhood is adorned with many neat and elegant villas, which exhibit the opulence of the town and the refinement of the inhabitants. The population is estimated at upwards of twenty-six thousand persons.

How singular is it, that, in passing through so fine a town, Dr. Johnson should only have noticed it by observing, "We stopped awhile at Dundee, where I remember nothing remarkable." But perhaps the melancholy humour in which he left the University of St. Andrew's, when the naturally morbid gloom of his mind appears to have assumed a darker hue from having contemplated, as he has phrased it, "a college alienated, and a church profaned," was too settled to admit of his feeling and commemorating the charms of a gay, graceful, and flourishing city.

The road to Abroath, or Aberbrothick, will sadly lose by a comparison with that which I had left behind, and I met with nothing to enter in my journal till I reached that town, which is of a tolerable size, and stands upon a small

plain, in an amphitheatre formed by a small ridge of hills. The harbour, which is small, but commodious, is entirely artificial, and formed by piers, which afford protection to vessels when they are not able to make any other port. At spring-tides, which rise here fifteen feet, ships of two hundred tons, and, at ordinary tides, ships of one hundred tons, can be admitted. This harbour is protected by a small neat battery, which originated from an attack made on the town, during the American war, by a privateer.

But what are most attractive to a traveller in this place are the ruins of the monastery, which excite a high impression of the magnificence of this venerable pile, in its perfect state. It was founded by William the Lion, in 1178, and dedicated to the celebrated Primate, Thomas a-Becket. The monks were of the Tyronesian order, from Kelso. The last abbot was Cardinal Beaton, who resembled Wolsey in power and splendour. The buildings of this religious establishment were enclosed in a wall, and must have covered a considerable extent of ground. The abbey was built of a red stone, found in the neighbourhood, unfortunately very friable. From its picturesque remains, it is evident that it must have originally possessed much beauty of architecture and sculpture; but time and religious phrensy seem to have overturned its solid towers, shattered its graceful columns, and unroofed its Gothic cloisters with peculiar

avidity, and with a more than ordinary sweep of desolation. I may be permitted to mention how I found myself accommodated here, as I have before done, and throughout shall continue to do; because an idea has gone forth in my own country, that, upon quitting Edinburgh, the traveller can seldom meet with comfort in any other part of Scotland but at the hospitable dwellings of private individuals to whom he may be introduced: the principal inn at this place is excellent. The trade of this place is considerable, consisting chiefly of osnaburgs, brown linen, and sail-cloth.

The road to Montrose, the next stage, is barren of beauty. The town is very neat and handsome, and singularly situated on a peninsula formed by the rivers of the South and North Esk, and the German Ocean: the harbour is not easy of access, but will admit vessels of large burden. The principal manufactures are linen, yarn, and thread, sheeting and sail-cloth, and rope-works. Tanning is also carried on; and there is a considerable fishery on the coast. This town is inhabited by many genteel persons of independent fortune, who naturally impart to the place a spirit of gaiety and refinement. It has a theatre and assemblies. Some of its public buildings are very respectable in appearance. The episcopalian spirit of Dr. Johnson was roused and delighted here by visiting the English chapel, and contemplating an organ in it. It has also public schools, an hospital, and a large

public library. The bridge over the South Esk is handsome. The Pretender slept here on the 13th of February, 1716, the night before he effected his escape to France. The population consists of about five thousand persons.

In my way to Aberdeen from Montrose, along the sea-coast, I passed through the towns of St. Cyrus, Benholm, Inverbervie, and Stonehaven. The ruins of Donnotter-castle, very near Stonehaven, the property of Mr. Keith, of Ravelstone, are very ancient. The rock upon which they stand is divided from the main land by a deep chasm. Before the use of fire-arms this castle was considered so impregnable, that, in 1661, the regalia of Scotland was deposited in it, for protection from the English army. From Montrose, Stonehaven is prettily situated, and well adapted for commerce. The harbour is good and safe. Its manufactures are sail-cloths, osnaburgs, brown linens, twist, worsted and thread stockings. Near the town is a new village, (built by Mr. Barclay, of Urie, a very worthy gentleman,) called also Stonehaven. From this place to Aberdeen the road is very good. Dull successive prospects of sterility without grandeur, and cultivation without gaiety, an absence of peasantry and trees on one side, and an interminable ocean on the other, prevented the eye from administering much gratification to the mind, and made me feel, with considerable emotion, my dependence upon Nature for some of my happiest

enjoyments. Deeply did I regret that I had not taken another route; and more so, for the sake of Scotland, that Boswell had not conducted his illustrious companion through parts of his country better calculated to soften the rigour of his prejudices. However, the accommodations all the way are good.

After a long and tedious route, I was refreshed by seeing the capital of Aberdeenshire open upon me; and I entered it with the feelings of one who had escaped from scenes he would wish never to revisit.

As I entered New Aberdeen, I beheld, amongst the first objects, the active and liberal hand of improvement before me, and on every side.

I was the bearer of letters to Major-General Macdonald, the Commander of the district (whose military skill and gallantry in the Low Countries and in Holland would derive no additional lustre from any eulogium of mine), and to other gentlemen, who received me with characteristic politeness and attention. After having secured rooms at an excellent hotel, in my walks through this learned and celebrated city I was much gratified by observing that the streets were spacious, and the houses in general very handsome, being for the most part built of the same sort of granite as that with which the streets of London are paved; it is dug from a

quarry in the neighbourhood. This circumstance, and the encouragement which the talents of the Scotch receive in England, gave rise to the following epigram, as it appeared in 1764:

> The new Scottish pavement is worthy of praise;
> We're indebted to Scotland for *mending our ways*:
> But what we can never forgive 'em, some say,
> Is that they have taken our *posts* all *away*.

In consequence of the town being built in several places upon ridges, the tops of some of the streets are at the base of others. The cross, which is in the centre of Castle-street, is much admired; it is an octagon stone building, richly ornamented with bas relievos of the Kings of Scotland, from James I. to James VI., with a Corinthian column in the middle, surmounted by an unicorn.

But, amongst the instances which may be adduced to shew the rapidly-increasing opulence of this city, the New Bridge attracts the earliest notice of the traveller, as he passes over it in his way from Perth. This noble structure was raised in 1803-4, and is built of the same granite as the houses, and consists of one principal arch, of 130 feet span, which springs over the Denburn Valley, in the line of the new south entry, called Union-street. The width is forty feet within the parapet walls. The view through this arch below, when I made a sketch, is extremely beautiful. The thin pyramidal ornaments upon the balustrades are unworthy of the taste and refinement of so distinguished a

city, and can answer no purpose that I could discover but to attract the attention of the lightning. This bridge was designed by Mr. Thomas Fletcher, of Aberdeen, engineer.

A more important but not so elegant a public work is the pier, close to the town, at the mouth of the river Dee; it well deserves the attention of the traveller. The harbour of Aberdeen is naturally what is called a *Bar* Harbour, in consequence of the easterly and north-easterly storms forming a ridge of sand at the mouth of it, which at low tide is seldom covered with water more than three feet deep. Frequent and dreadful used to be the shipwrecks of vessels riding at anchor in the roads in foul weather, until the flow of tide enabled them to find protection in the harbour. After many ineffectual efforts to remove so destructive an evil, the spirit and munificence of the town have triumphed over the difficulties of nature, and under the direction of the celebrated Mr. Smeaton, and at an expense of upwards of 20,000*l.*, a pier one thousand two hundred feet in length, gradually increasing in thickness and height as it approaches the sea, where the head or rounding is sixty feet diameter at the base, and the perpendicular elevation thirty-eight feet, has been erected on the north side of the harbour; the expense of this is defrayed by doubling the harbour-dues. The whole is of granite;

and some of the outside stones of this mighty piece of masonry are above three tons weight, with hewn beds; there are now seventeen fathoms at low water a little to the south of the bar, and from eight to nine fathoms at the harbour's mouth, where there were formerly but a few feet.

New Aberdeen is chiefly celebrated for the Marischal College and University, situated in Broad-street, founded and endowed by George, Earl Marischal of Scotland, in 1593. It is a large sombre pile, and contains, besides lecture-rooms for the different classes, the public schools for conferring of degrees, a common hall, the library, a small museum of natural history and antiquities, and an observatory well furnished with a very valuable astronomical apparatus. The government of this learned establishment consists of a principal, three professors of philosophy, one of divinity, and others for mathematics, chemistry, medicine, and oriental languages; and there are many bursaries for poor students. A bursar is a student, who, for a certain number of years, enjoys a small exhibition or allowance, called in Scotland a bursar, or bursary. A student who has no bursary is, with a similar misapplication of the word, as it is used in these times at Aberdeen, called a *libertine*. This college owes not a little of its lustre to the character and literary productions of the late truly amiable and elegant

Dr. Beattie, who, from having been usher to the grammar-school at Aberdeen, was most honourably elevated to the chair of moral philosophy in this college. Amongst the numerous works of this distinguished writer, his Minstrel, and his Essay on the Nature and Immutability of Truth, are entitled to pre-eminence. Poetry never had a more delicate and feeling votary, nor religion a more acute and fervid apostle. His refined modesty acted upon his rich and cultivated mind as a fine veil upon a beautiful face, increasing the charms which it rather covered than concealed. The piety of his Sovereign, captivated with the eloquence of the holy advocate, sought for the pleasures of personal conversation with him. Dr. Beattie had the peculiar honour of an interview with their Majesties, unrestrained by the harassing forms and depressive splendour of a court, who paid the most flattering compliments to his hallowed labours, and more substantially rewarded them with a pension. Such an application of resourses derived by a beloved Monarch from a loyal people resembles, as was once observed upon a memorable occasion, the sun, which extracts moisture from the earth, to replace it in refreshing dews. The writings and life of this unblemished man coincide with pure design and perfect execution. All that he inculcated he practised. He arrested the thoughtless, he fixed the wavering, he confirmed the good. His domestic sorrows were great and many; his philosophy, however, was

of a divine nature, and he submitted to them with a resignation which seemed to be derived from Heaven, where he is gone to mingle with the spirits of the good and great, who preceded him in their flight to immortality.

The Senatus Academicus of Marischal College consists of the following members:—

Right Hon. Lord AUCKLAND, Chancellor.
Alex. Baxter, Esq. Rector.
William L. Brown, Principal.——Patron, the Crown.

W. L. Brown,	Divinity.	Town of Aberdeen.
James Kidd,	Oriental Languages.	Sir Alex. Ramsay.
W. Livingstone,	Medicine.	Crown.
John Stuart,	Greek.	Ditto.
Geo. Glennie,	Moral Phil. and Logic.	Ditto.
Rob. Hamilton,	Natural Philosophy.	Ditto.
Ja. Beattie,	Natural History.	Ditto.
Patrick Copland,	Mathematics.	Town of Aberdeen.
George French,	Chymistry.	College.

In the market-place, which is a handsome oblong square, is the town-house, with a handsome spire; and adjoining this is the tolbooth, a gloomy square building, about one hundred and twenty feet high, in the tower of which there is a depot of small arms, and the fragments of a maiden, or guillotine. Whilst the city is receiving so many embellishments, it would be well if the magistrates would erect another gaol in the room of the present one. The chambers, or rather dungeons, of this gloomy abode, every one of which I

inspected, are small, confined, badly ventilated, and loathsome. Some of those miserable beings, who may be destined to the rigours of confinement in this town, may hereafter find accommodations equally secure and more healthy in the bridewell which is building in its vicinity; but as the town must, I presume, have a tolbooth for the safe custody of criminals committed for trial, or punishment of very serious offences, a traveller may be permitted to submit, with deference, his feelings upon the subject, to the humane and enlightened magistracy of this town; not doubting that when their resources will admit, when other difficulties, which perhaps at present obstruct their intentions, are removed, they will consider, that, by restraining the persons of those who violate the laws, the legislature never intended that they should incur the superadded misery of disease and sickness.

That there is a great share of humanity as well as liberality in the town is evident from the number of asylums for the sick and infirm which it contains, amongst which the Lunatic Hospital, built and principally supported by subscription, and very properly removed about a mile from the town, deserves attention for its neatness and order, and the excellent treatment of the unfortunate objects confined within its walls. Dr. Dyce, physician to this hospital, has tried an experiment upon some of the

patients, in violent cases, which has been attended with temporary success. He has had a machine like a pump made, into which the maniac is shut, and so closely confined, in an erect position, as not to be able to move, in which state water is pumped upon his bare head. The terror produced by this process has, I believe, never failed to subdue the paroxysm, and to render the patient much milder and more rational. The patients have spacious grounds to walk in; the violent are separated from the convalescent, and their rooms were remarkably clean and comfortable. The whole had that neat and sprightly appearance which I should conceive so necessary to sooth and gradually restore the mind suffering under the heaviest visitation of the Almighty.

The bridewell, as far as I could judge, will, when finished, in some degree resemble that at Edinburgh: it was constructing of the granite I have had occasion to mention before, which is almost the only mineral production of Aberdeenshire, and with which, either upon the surface or in quarry, the county abounds. This stone has a tendency to split only in one direction, and the common masons know how to split it into blocks, and they afterwards cut it, although astonishingly hard, with uncommon skill and dexterity. The chippings are found very good for roads.

CHAP. XVI.

TRADE OF NEW ABERDEEN—MANUFACTURES—SHIPPING—LAND VALUABLE — DR. JOHNSON'S ILLIBERALITY — INFIRMARY — MEDICAL SOCIETY — LITERARY CHARACTERS — THE ATHENÆUM—OLD ABERDEEN — JURISDICTION OF MAGISTRATES—THE SHERIFF'S COURT—SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES IN ABERDEEN —KING'S COLLEGE — DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS — DANISH ANECDOTE.

ABERDEEN, in regard to population and trade, is reckoned the third town in Scotland. The number of inhabitants, by the last census, was computed at twenty-seven thousand; but it has been increasing very rapidly for some years past, and at this time it is supposed to contain at least thirty thousand inhabitants. Its trade is very various, and pretty extensive. The imports, as far as the difficulties of the present war will admit, are chiefly from the Baltic, Archangel, Holland, and America: the articles brought from these places are mostly such as are calculated for manufacturers. There is, at present, very little export direct from this town, but its manufactures are circulated through the whole island, and part of them exported from other places. The principal article of export is worsted stockings, knitted on wires, which, at a former period, this

place sent into Germany and Holland in very great quantities; indeed it at one time supplied a great part of the Continent with this article, through the medium of Holland, and it formed a very extensive and profitable traffic both for the manufacturers and the industrious females in the country all round, by the latter of whom these stockings were wrought. Since the commencement of the present war, however, this trade has suffered very much, and is now almost totally annihilated, owing to the very severe restrictions upon our intercourse with the Continent; what little, therefore, is done in this way at present, is merely what is required in Britain itself; and the article of this kind made for home consumption is much finer than that usually sent to the Continent, and indeed much higher priced than stockings made on frames, the consequence of which is, that but very few comparatively of knitted stockings are required.

The principal manufactures in Aberdeen at present consist of cottons and linens, various descriptions of which are made in great perfection, and in very considerable quantities; there are also several very extensive manufactories of white and coloured threads, for which articles Aberdeen has been long famous. One house, of very great extent, embraces the manufacture of threads, linens, ducks and sail cloth, and this indeed may be justly reckoned the

largest manufactory in the north of Scotland: there are some very large mills belonging to it on the river Don, in the neighbourhood of the town, where their yarns are spun and twisted by machinery, and where their bleaching is carried on; their weaving is done partly in the town and suburbs, but chiefly in the country around, where they have looms in almost every town and village to the distance of forty or fifty miles. In short, to give some idea of the extent of this manufactory, it may be sufficient to remark that it employs from seven to eight hundred weavers, and the number of hands engaged in its various departments may be some thousands, consisting of both sexes, and almost of every age.

Though this is by far the most extensive, there are two other thread-manufactories of no inconsiderable note, besides several inferior ones. In cotton goods, too, the manufacture of this place is very considerable. There are two principal cotton-works, to one of which is attached a print-field. The mills belonging to this latter are also situated on the river Don, and are perhaps the second, if not the first, in point of extent, in Scotland: here the yarn is spun and twisted by water machinery, and here also the bleaching and printing is carried on. The produce of this manufactory is sold throughout all Scotland and England, and the concern has for several years proved

very useful to the public, and very lucrative to its spirited proprietors.

The next considerable work of this nature is managed by a steam-engine; and, though of late establishment, promises also great utility and prosperity. It is chiefly, for the present, confined to the manufacture of sail-yarns, and of plain goods; but it is yet in its infancy, and will, perhaps, soon extend its limits, as well as its variety of manufactures. There are several smaller manufactories of cotton goods, of various kinds, the produce of which is sold in the town and neighbourhood. In this place there are many other pretty considerable concerns, such as breweries, tanneries, soap and candle works, and two founderies; also a coach-manufactory, where travelling vehicles of all descriptions are made in a very neat style.

One very considerable branch of trade here is fishing, by which a great deal of money has been realised; it consists chiefly in salmon and herrings for curing. Very great quantities of salmon are caught and cured here annually, and sent to the London market; the gentlemen concerned in this trade, besides the fisheries about Aberdeen, have others at different places in the neighbouring counties, from which they also send to London every year very considerable quantities. This trade has proved a source

of unexpected and almost inexhaustible wealth to the adventurers. Some gentlemen here have herring-fisheries in the Murray Frith and Frith of Forth, by which they occasionally draw great profits.

There is a very considerable tonnage of shipping belonging to the port of Aberdeen, consisting of vessels from forty or fifty to seven or eight hundred tons, most of which are built at the port, and one ship was lately built here of nine hundred tons.

The shipping is very variously employed, some of it in Government service, some in the foreign trade direct with Aberdeen itself, some with other places, and the rest in the coasting trade, which, considering the size of the town, employs a very great part. For the supply and equipment of the shipping, there are also several manufactories of cordage and sail-cloths.

An acre of land here is worth double the rent of an acre in the neighbourhood of London, owing to the absence of poor-rates.

It is also celebrated for pickled pork, with which the Dutch used formerly to victual their East-India vessels and ships of war. Aberdeen also has great reputation for

the excellence of its salt and fresh butter. Boswell mentions that Dr. Johnson laughed heartily upon being informed that Cromwell's soldiers taught the Aberdeen people to make shoes and stockings, and to plant cabbages. Whoever thus informed the melancholy sage must have been in a great error indeed. Aberdeen is a place of great antiquity, and has for a long period of time carried on an extensive intercourse with various parts of the Continent of Europe, which doubtless would have imparted to her enterprising natives the discovery of such primary comforts long before that period, had they not arisen, as amongst their southern brethren, with the gradual progress of civilization. The freedom of the city was conferred upon Dr. Johnson, and this seems to have been the only derisive remark he made upon the people of Aberdeen.

The infirmary, or hospital, in Aberdeen, is visited by two respectable physicians, under whom several young men attend; and in this way the youth have almost every variety in practice to exemplify the private instructions of the physicians. There is no professed school of medicine in Aberdeen; but though this be wanting, the medical professors in Aberdeen have long borne a distinguished character. This is confirmed in a great degree by the number of young men who study medicine in Aberdeen. Many students from England frequent Aberdeen.

There is also a Medical Society, supported by the students. By their contributions books are principally purchased; and it is now supposed to be a matter of the first importance to get entered as a member in this society, for the benefit of the library, which is very extensive. The students likewise have many other advantages in this society, from discourses which they deliver, and by the comments which such discourses draw forth.

In Aberdeen there are upwards of twenty clergymen, including those in the established church and episcopalian chapels, as well as sectaries.

Very few of these clergymen are authors, though most of them are distinguished for their erudition and intelligence. Dr. Brown, Principal of Marischal College, and one of the ministers of the established church, is thought to be an eloquent preacher, and an animated speaker in the General Assembly. He is author of a volume of Sermons, an Essay on the Natural Equality of Man, and a Poem on Sensibility. Besides these, he has published several small tracts and single sermons, and a new edition of Leland's View of Deistical Writers, with an excellent appendix. He succeeded Dr. Campbell, who wrote in opposition to Hume on Miracles. This writer is well known to the literary world;

the general characteristic of his writings seems to be great vigour and acuteness of intellect.

Mr. Cadiner, of St. Paul's Chapel in Aberdeen, (an English chapel,) has lately published a Tour through Ceylon. He succeeded Mr. Alcock in this chapel, who, as a preacher, was one of the first order. His sermons were finely conceived, uniformly composed with neatness, and in many instances with peculiar felicity of diction.

Bishop Skinner, of the Scots Episcopal Church in Aberdeen, is author of a book called Primitive Truth. It is principally in vindication of the episcopal establishment. He writes several other small tracts, and is assisted by his son, Mr. William Skinner, a graduate of Oxford, who is considered as a very excellent preacher.

The literary characters of Aberdeen are many, though there are not many authors. The booksellers are very numerous, and monthly supply the town and country with most of the books of character, as they appear in London. All the periodical publications are widely disseminated about Aberdeen; and, in conjunction with the London newspapers, diffuse a very general intelligence among all classes. Indeed the information which may be

acquired here by literary people, is, in almost every instance, little inferior to London; for, independently of the foregoing means, there is a literary establishment upon an extensive scale, called the Athenæum, superintended by Mr. Brown, bookseller, and of which he is principal proprietor, where all the London newspapers, four days after they appear in London, and most of the periodical publications, and many political tracts, are taken in. This place is well attended, and contributes to add to the general intelligence which pervades the people of this part of Scotland.

There is a very extensive circulating library, containing many thousand volumes, and constantly enlarged by the new publications, with a liberality and taste which do credit to the proprietor.

As far as my opportunities admitted, the society here seemed to display the elegance of refinement, and the luxury of opulence.

Old Aberdeen is about a mile to the northward of the New Town, at the mouth of the river Don. This town is comprehended under the parish of Oldmachar, as New Aberdeen is under the parish of St. Nicholas. The ma-

gistrates of the one town have no connection with the other; but it is believed the magistrates of Old Aberdeen seldom exercise their jurisdiction as magistrates. It is different in the New Town, where their power and jurisdiction are exercised, in all cases concerning personal property, to the highest extent: their jurisdiction is frequently exercised in criminal matters; but it is generally understood to be restricted to the lesser delinquencies: that which involves any crime of magnitude is generally left to be tried by the Circuit Court. In this court the Lords of Justiciary preside, and take cognizance of all appeals in civil cases, from the inferior courts, under twelve pounds sterling.

In civil and criminal cases, the jurisdiction of the sheriff in the county is much the same as the baillies in the burghs; with this difference, however, that the jurisdiction of the magistrates of burghs is limited to the burgh exclusively, but that of the sheriffs extends also to the county, like that of the magistrates.

The magistrates of burghs cannot be expected to dispense justice always with great propriety, where points of law are involved in the issue of the case. They accordingly have assistants, who are acquainted with the law. In some

burghs these assistants are designated assessors, in others consulters, and frequently the duty falls upon the town-clerks; but still, as the magistrate (generally a mercantile man) is the judge, where he is obstinate in his own determination, without much knowledge of the law, (which is too often the case,) the course of justice is perverted.

The Sheriff's Court is superintended by a Judge, denominated a Sheriff Depute. He is named from the Faculty of Advocates in Edinburgh. The practical part of the business, however, falls upon the *Sheriff Substitute*, who is generally called from the practitioners before the inferior court.

The Commissary Court is a remnant of the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the bishops: their business is not extensive; it is principally limited to the proving and establishing of titles to the personal estates of those who are dead. The dues upon this latter procedure are heavy, and very much complained of. Upon them the Commissary's living principally depends. Indeed the general opinion is against the Commissary Court; for it creates a tax upon the commission of property from the dead to the living, merely for the Commissary's emolument, whose jurisdiction is so trifling in other matters that it could be easily accomplished in the Sheriff's Court. The jurisdiction of a Commissary is not limited always to a single county; it frequently embraces two or three.

Before the Sheriff, Baillie, and Commissary Courts, the same lawyers practise, and conduct business. In Aberdeen they are designated Advocates; this title, and other privileges, they enjoy by royal charter. In other provincial towns they are only designated "Writers." In Aberdeen there are no law classes. In the King's College there is a professorship for teaching the civil law; but no lectures are given, and the place is considered as a sinecure.

The Society of Advocates in Aberdeen, incorporated by royal charter, are in number about fifty. Receiving a liberal education, they in general are men of considerable intelligence, some in respectable and independent circumstances, and in the habits of associating with the first people of rank in the country. In order to ensure as much respectability as possible, a young man, before he can be put apprentice to an advocate, must previously produce certificates of having received a liberal and a classical education.

The principal buildings near this town bespeak it to be a place of great antiquity, amongst which the King's College is its most distinguished ornament. The chapel of this sombre but stately pile is vaulted with a double cross arch, above which is an imperial crown in stone, supported by eight stone pillars, upon which there are evident marks of decay, and indications of a speedy downfal; besides

this, there is a tolerably good library, in which there are some curiosities, a common hall, rooms for lectures, and a range of houses for the professors. The professors are of Humanity or Latin, Greek, three of Philosophy, Oriental Languages, Civil Law, Divinity, and Medicine. There are a number of bursaries for poor students. The students here, as in the New Town, live out of the college, except a few who reside as pupils with the professors. The course of education, I was informed, is nearly the same in both colleges, which are totally distinct and separate from each other, and separately confer their academical honours. Many efforts have been made, for many years past, to unite these colleges into one university and one college, "a consummation devoutly to be wished" by both; but a jealous adherence to their mutual interests and privileges has hitherto rendered the difficulties of an adjustment insurmountable. The King is patron of both colleges, but never interferes in the election of their higher officers.

One of the most shining characters of the age was educated at this college, which is deservedly proud of the name of Sir James Mackintosh. The leading events in the public life of this great man are widely known. Upon a memorable occasion, he delivered one of the most profound and eloquent speeches ever heard from the British bar, in supporting an individual against the indignant

application of the present ruler of France for redress, in a British court of justice, against an attack which he deemed a libel. The speech excited the admiration of the judges before whom it was pronounced, and of the country. Connected with the views of Buonaparté, and recommended by transcendent eloquence, it was rapidly translated into all the languages of Europe, and diffused the fame of the orator over the civilized world. The great endowments of his mind, displayed on this and other important occasions, led to rapid promotion; but to a promotion which, though honourable and lucrative to the object, is much to be regretted by the country: Sir James Mackintosh was appointed Recorder of Bombay; and his exalted genius, which, in times like the present, would add to the wisdom and energy of our councils at home, is brilliantly discharging the duties of his judicial situation in a distant region.

The principals and professors of both colleges have the reputation of eminence in purity of conduct and depth of learning. Besides Dr. Beattie and Sir James Mackintosh, the names of Reid, Campbell, Gregory, and Gerard, connected with the Philosophical Society established here, reflect no little additional lustre on Aberdeen.

The King's College in Old Aberdeen is not united to the

Marischal College in Aberdeen, and in all probability never will be. Some years ago a proposition of this kind was made, and anxiously wished for, by the professors of the Marischal College; but, as the livings of King's College were better, the professors of this latter college were rather indifferent about the measure; and it is believed from this reason the matter dropped. At each of these colleges there may be about one hundred and fifty students, at an average: they wear red gowns; there is nothing else peculiar in their dress. They reside not in college, but in town. At these colleges there are neither many Irish nor American youths, though the contrary is generally believed in England; they are principally youths from the neighbouring counties and towns. There are pretty frequently young men from England who attend the colleges here. From the bursaries given to students, upon competition, at the opening of each session at college, great assistance is rendered to the poor student. The lowest of these bursaries may be about five pounds yearly, and the highest about ten or twelve pounds. The yearly session at college continues five months, beginning in November and ending in March. From the session being so short, and living not very high, numbers in Scotland take the benefit of a classical education at college. I have before mentioned that Hector Boethius was the first president of this college.

The Senatus Academicus of King's College is as follows:

His Grace the Duke of GORDON, Chancellor.
Lord Glenbervie, Rector.—Rod. M'Leod, Principal.
W. Jack, Sub-Principal, and Professor of Philosophy.—Patron, the University.

H. M'Pherson,	Greek.	The University.
William Ogilvie,	Humanity.	Ditto.
Alex. Dauncy,	Civil Law.	Ditto.
A. Bannerman,	Medicine.	Ditto.
W. Jack and R. Scott,	Philosophy.	Ditto.
James Bentley,	Oriental Languages.	Ditto.
Gilbert Gerard,	Divinity.	M. of Synod, &c.
Wm. Duncan,	Natural Philosophy.	

I made an agreeable excursion round the vicinity, which is embellished with several gentlemen's seats, and some few but very scanty plantations, enlivened by various prospects of the sea; in the course of which I visited the venerable Gothic bridge said to have been built by Bishop Cheyne, in 1281, over the Don, consisting of one large arch, where there is an enchanting view to the west, upon the banks of the river, which are here well wooded; also some very extensive cotton-mills; and upon my return to the Old Town I experienced much civility from Dr. Ogilvie, who resides in the manse, or parsonage-house, belonging to the church, which is composed of two very antique spires and one aisle, fragments of a great cathedral, called St. Machers. This cathedral is mentioned in history as a magnificent pile, and as having had a noble library, which was destroyed in 1560. To relieve the sombre character of ecclesiastical

description, neither my reader nor the Doctor will be offended at my relating the following whimsical occurrence which befel him as a traveller, which afforded me a smile worth having in some of my solitary Caledonian rambles. The attachment which the Doctor has to the study of astronomy induced him some years since to cross over to Denmark, for the purpose of personally paying his respects to a celebrated professor of his favourite science at Copenhagen. Unfortunately he arrived at a time when a considerable ferment prevailed in the public mind, in consequence of our having taken and detained one of their ships of war, for what cause I do not remember: the professor largely partook of the public anger; and as it is natural to identify a foreigner with his country, as soon as the Doctor entered the room, the former went up to him, and, forgetful of the compliment of such a visit, and thinking only of the outrage conceived to have been offered to the dignity of Denmark, exclaimed, "Sir, I am glad to see you; but, Sir, how dare *you* to take one of our ships?" Upon which the Doctor, with equal coolness and good humour, drily replied, "Sir do not be offended with me; upon my honour *I* never took a ship in my life." The answer had the intended effect; the professor laughed at and apologized for the length to which his patriotic ardour had carried him, and treated his worthy guest with all the attention due to him during his stay in the Danish capital.

CHAP. XVII.

ABERDEENSHIRE BIRDS—ABERDEENSHIRE FORESTRY—SLANES-CASTLE—ITS EXTRAORDINARY SITUATION—THE LATE EARL OF ERROL—THE BULLERS OF BUCHAN—PETERHEAD—EFFECT OF FIRST SEEING A TREE—BANFF—DUFF-HOUSE—THE EARL OF FIFE—CULLEN—FINE MARBLE—FINLATER-HOUSE—GORDON-CASTLE—ELGIN—ANECDOTES OF SCOTTISH PEASANTS—THE CATHEDRAL—RURAL ECONOMY.

UPON quitting Aberdeen, I slept at a hamlet, distant about sixteen miles. The Scotch in general reckon the distance, in posting, by the English mile; but sometimes they confound the English with the Scottish mile, to the no little vexation of the English traveller. A Scotch mile is fifteen hundred geometrical paces, an English mile twelve hundred. The inn was a comfortable one; and, for supper, a branded fowl, as it is called, from its being broiled on the gridiron, was introduced. Here, and in other parts of Scotland, I found that, upon the arrival of a guest, when the larder afforded nothing else, it was common to seize upon the first luckless fowl that came within the reach of the cook, which was instantly put to death, and speedily served up in the way I have mentioned. The ride to this place was

flat and extremely dreary. In many parts nature appeared worn to the bone, the rocks rising through the thin surface of the earth. No trees waved their ample branches in the breeze; and the song of the bird was not heard. Many parts of Aberdeenshire reminded me of Russian Finland, except that it wanted its rude masses of rock, which in that country every where line the road. It has been whimsically said, that in Aberdeenshire the birds are accustomed to build their nests upon the ground, so great is the scarcity of hedges and trees.

The contrast between the barren face of the country and the polished state of society very strongly presents itself to the observation. A young artist from Aberdeenshire went to London, to advance his fortunes, and applied to be an assistant scene-painter at one of the theatres: upon being examined as to his qualifications, particularly with regard to trees, he observed, "I can paint a rural scene, but know nothing about *your forestry*." Notwithstanding these remarks, which arise from what I saw, I am informed that in some parts of Aberdeenshire there are thriving plantations, and that industry and enterprise are doing all within their power to mitigate the severity of nature.

In making our way to Slanes Castle, the curricle of a

friend of mine, who accompanied me to Peterhead, sustained many a severe shock, and threatened us with frequent overthrow. The cross road to this singular spot is only fit for horse-travelling. Very little, I was informed, remains of the ancient Castle of Slanes, it having been demolished by King James VI., in the Earl of Huntley's rebellion in 1594.

My astonishment increased as I approached the more modern fabric. Upon a wide waste, without verdure and without a tree, the turrets of the castle rose before us. Upon alighting to view its front towards the sea, it presented the extraordinary appearance of a large solid mansion resting upon a rock, lashed by the tempestuous ocean that divides Scotland from Norway. Within, I found a very comfortable house, having a square court, and a gallery leading to the rooms on each side; the drawing-room looks immediately upon the sea, which in stormy weather covers its windows with spray, and wanted nothing but the motion of the waves to make me conceive that I was looking from the cabin-windows of a large man of war. Who will not be surprised to hear that such a chosen scene of gloomy grandeur and magnificent desolation was the hereditary residence of a family at once distinguished for their rank and refinement of manners? It is the seat of the Earl of Errol, who, by the articles of the Union, as well as by an

act of parliament abolishing the heritable jurisdiction in Scotland, is the hereditary Lord High Constable of Scotland. In the room I have been describing is a fine and very handsome portrait of the late Earl, in his parliamentary robes, by Sir Joshua Reynolds. Dr. Beattie thus feelingly and elegantly delineates the character of this amiable nobleman, to whom he was much indebted for many marked civilities, in a letter which he wrote to Mrs. Montagu, upon the subject of his Lordship's death:—"Lord Errol's death, of which you must have heard, is a great loss to this country, and matter of unspeakable regret to his friends. I owed him much; but, independently of all considerations of gratitude, I had a sincere liking and very great esteem for him. In his manners he was wonderfully agreeable; a most affectionate and attentive parent, husband, and brother; elegant in his economy, and perhaps expensive, yet exact and methodical. He exerted his influence, as a man of rank and a magistrate, in doing good to all the neighbourhood; and it has often been mentioned, to his honour, that no man ever administered an oath with a more pious and commanding solemnity than he: he was regular in his attendance upon public worship, and exemplary in the performance of it. In a word, he was adored by his servants, a blessing to his tenants, and the darling of the whole country. His stature was six feet four inches, and his proportions most exact. His countenance and deportment

exhibited such a mixture of the sublime and the graceful as I have never seen united in any other man. He often put me in mind of an ancient hero; and I remember Dr. Samuel Johnson was positive that he resembled Homer's character of Sarpedon." At the coronation of his present Majesty, this Lord Errol officiated as Lord High Constable of Scotland. The library is a very comfortable apartment, and well supplied. The murmur of the waves without seemed auspicious to study and meditation. I should much like to be under the roof of Slanes Castle

"When the storms aloft arise, when the north lifts the wave on high."
OSSIAN.

The road to Peterhead, by the way of the Buller, or Boiler, of Buchan, distant from the castle about two miles, was represented to be so bad, that I mounted a led horse, and my friend went round by the main road.

The Buller is very near to a little romantic hamlet of fishermen, and resembles from the top of the rock on which we stood, and which forms its walls, a vast well, opening, at the bottom, through a large caverned passage, into the sea, which in stormy weather rushes in through this aperture, and, striking against the opposite side, rises to a prodigious height, considerably above the top, sometimes throwing up large stones in its rage: in this state

of violence its foam resembles water boiling over, which I apprehend is the origin of the name of this gloomy and awful chasm. Part of the top of the rock is so narrow, that I was obliged to crawl to it upon my hands and knees with great care, to prevent falling from the precipice, which threatened instant destruction to me on either side; yet I was assured, by a gentleman of acknowledged veracity, that some years since, when the passage was not broader, a man rode over it on a sheltie: the great caution of a horse is well known, it may therefore be perfectly correct.

Along this shore there are many other singular caverns, and it is much the fashion with the frequenters of Peterhead to make water-parties to explore them. On this (the eastern) coast the natives are distinguishable by having high cheek-bones and red hair.

The ride from the Buller to Peterhead partook of the same stony sterile nakedness before adverted to, with the addition of worse roads. The elevated appearance of Peterhead, rising upon a peninsula, embraced by the ocean, would be very agreeable, if trees formed a part of the prospect. This town is situated on the most easterly promontory of Scotland, within three hundred miles of the Naze of Norway, and the peninsula on which it stands is united to the country on the north-west by an isthmus only

eight hundred yards broad. It contains about three thousand inhabitants; the houses are neat, and the churches and town-houses handsome; the harbour is a small bason formed out of the solid rock, and protected by a battery; it carries on a coasting trade, and a fishery amongst the Hebrides. Before the war it also carried on a considerable commerce with the ports in the Baltic. The place is celebrated for a chalybeate spring, of the nature of the waters of Tunbridge Wells. This spring is called the Wine Well, from the water sparkling in the glass like champaigne. —According to the analysis of its water, published by Dr. Laing, he discovered that twelve pounds weight avoirdupois of water contained the following mineralizers:—

Muriate of iron	30¼ Grains.
Carbonate of iron	3¼
Muriate of lime	7
Siliceous earth	2
Sulphate of lime	2
Ditto of Soda	13¼
Muriate of ditto	7¼
Carbonic acid gas	83¼ Cubit Inches.

The iron contained in this water renders it a fine tonic. The baths of this place are admirably constructed, and do great credit to the ingenious proprietor, who is the contriver, and a very singular good-humoured character. They consist of open and covered, cold and warm, shower-baths; projecting vapour, warm water, medicated, and warm air-baths. There is also an assembly-room, rather a shabby one, and an

ordinary for the visitors at the principal hotel. Health or amusement, I am told, generally attracts in the summer a considerable number of the fashionables of Scotland: when I was there, although in the season, the company was slender, and the place altogether very dull; as dull as Brighton would be without the splendour of its society. The presence of the Duchess of Gordon has, as may be easily imagined by all who have the honour of knowing her Grace, a considerable influence upon the place: her rank, wit, and urbanity, never fail to attract a large circle.

Formerly Peterhead was merely a petty fishing-town; it now carries on considerable manufactures and some commerce: in 1764 its population was two thousand four hundred and twenty, which increased in 1794 to four thousand one hundred. The sacrament was administering whilst I was there, which brought a great number of persons together; and the church was uncommonly thronged during all the time of its administration.

Good chaises are to be had from this place to Inverness. The road from Peterhead to Old Deer, eleven miles, and thence to New Bythe, twelve miles more, is very dreary and sterile. My eye hunted for trees as a sportsman would for game, but I do not recollect that one gladdened my sight all

the way. Nature every where seemed to have played the part of a severe stepdame. I again regretted that Johnson should have passed through such a gloomy region, which he has so powerfully described; and which, as he has omitted to mention the many parts of Scotland clothed with wood and verdure, has, by many, been mistaken for the general character of Scottish scenery; a great and an unpleasant error. Some ladies of Aberdeenshire assured me, that, upon their quitting this county, the sight of a stately tree produced an agreeable effect upon their minds, which was perfectly novel.

From New Bythe to Banff I traversed over a country almost as dismal as the preceding stages, and upon a road infinitely worse. The coast from Peterhead to Banff is extremely dangerous, being exposed to the fury of the north-easterly winds, which have washed away the incumbent soil, and left numerous sharp naked rocks. The approach to Banff, over a bridge of seven arches, is singular and picturesque. The town, which is very ancient, is the capital of Banffshire. It is considerable in size, has some handsome streets, and is very pleasantly and romantically situated, on the side of a steep declivity, at the mouth of the river Doveran. The view which most pleased me was from the western part of Banff, looking towards Macduff, a considerable village opposite: a very elegant church is the prin-

cipal object amongst the public buildings; there are several excellent seminaries for education; and manufactories of cotton stockings and thread are carried on to a considerable extent. The inhabitants have a very respectable appearance; and an air of great gentility cannot fail to attract the notice of the traveller in various parts of the town, which, in size and consequence, ranks next to Aberdeen amongst the towns in the north of Scotland. Owing to continually-shifting sand-banks at the mouth of the river, the harbour is rendered unsafe. Since Dr. Johnson visited this town it must have been much improved. It was here, the reader may remember, that he so bitterly lamented the incommodiousness of the Scottish windows, which were pushed up and down in grooves unaided by weights and pulleys, and the total ignorance of the value of ventilating human habitations. I met with no such grievances: to be sure, in the hovel of the peasant or very poor mechanic, the windows are stationary, but then the doors are frequently opened. Banff derives not a little of its beauty from its close neighbourhood to the Park of Duff-house, the seat of the Earl of Fife, into which the principal street opens. Upon my arrival at the mansion, with a letter of introduction to the noble owner, I had to regret that his Lordship had just left it for one of his shooting-boxes. The house is a noble quadrangular structure, of five stories, from the design of Mr. Adam; the battlements are richly decorated with urns and statues, but the effect of the whole is sadly injured by

the wings not having been as yet erected. Within are some very handsome apartments, and a great profusion of paintings, amongst which are some family portraits, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, the colours of which, very fortunately, still look fresh. There is also one, by the same admirable master, of the Duchess of Gordon; there are several by Kneller and Jamieson, and a few by Vandyke, Rubens, Sir Peter Lely, &c. Upon the frame of a portrait of the Duc D'Orleans, the Earl has inscribed the following memorial of his detestation of his character:—

"The most ruthless monster that ever polluted the earth was executed at Paris, by a Decree of the National Convention, November 6, 1793."

The house stands in a very extensive and beautiful park, through which the Deveron flows. This park and the surrounding plantations measure nearly twenty miles in circumference: it possesses some very fine timber; and the pleasure-grounds, containing walks of great extent and variety, are laid out with a refined taste. Contrasted with the sterile and gloomy scenes which I had left behind, the charms of this place appeared with peculiar attraction; and I wandered through its winding avenues with something of the delight which a man exhibits upon quitting the deck of a ship, after a long voyage, to rove at large upon a verdant lawn.

The present Earl of Fife was educated by Dr. Guthrie,

the well-known and ingenious author of the Geographical Grammar. His Lordship has exhibited a spirit of enterprise in plantations, which it is to be hoped will become exemplary in that part of Scotland. He has planted no less than fourteen thousand acres of wood, some of the trees of which are thirteen feet in circumference, and others one hundred feet high; indeed, although so near to the sea, there are in these plantations some of the finest forest-trees I ever saw. The establishment of his Lordship is very splendid. Besides Duff-house, he is the owner of Delgaty-castle, Rothesnay-house, Innes-house, and Fife-house; the last is his Lordship's residence in London.

Other travellers may perhaps be told, as I was, that there are some capital pictures to be seen at the Castle of Banff, which, by the bye, has neither the resemblance nor the presumed antiquity of such a building, being a plain modern house, belonging to the Earl of Finlater, and principally allotted for the Dowager of the family; but, upon inquiry, I was informed they had been removed to Cullen.

In my way to Cullen, distant about fifteen miles, I passed through a fine corn-country, and had occasional views of the North Sea.

Along the coast of Banff fine marble is found in such

abundance, that it is related that when Louis XIV. was building Versailles, he wished to have used it in that building, but declined, from hearing that it was so abundant. Along the coast are caught considerable quantities of various sorts of fish, and it is sometimes visited by large shoals of herrings. The exports from this country of dried and salted fish, such as cod, ling, haddock, and salmon, are also extensive and lucrative. The manufactures are linen-yarn, white and coloured threads, thread and worsted stockings, and leather shoes.

At Cullen I found, what is always welcome to a traveller, an admirable inn, or rather hotel, where every reasonable comfort and accommodation are to be obtained without exaction, and with civility. The town, in which a considerable manufactory of linen and damask is carried on, is mean and dirty. There is nothing to detain the traveller here but Finlater-house, the hereditary seat of the Earl of Finlater, which is more ancient than stately, and far less worthy of notice than the park and ground in which it stands, which, particularly as viewed from the bridge near the house, afford a grand and romantic prospect. The noble owner has been for many years abroad, principally, as I was informed, at Dresden. With the refined taste which he has, no doubt, imbibed during so long a residence in a capital, which, as well as its environs, is much celebrated for architectural elegance, and with the ample fortune which

he enjoys, his Lordship might erect a building here worthy of his residence, a task to which he is strongly invited by the beauty and capability of situation. In the old mansion, which is very dreary, there are a few paintings, the best, apparently, by French masters. The servant very gravely informed me that one of the show-rooms, in which the only object worth looking at was a blazing fire, was only used by the Lord's men of business, meaning his agents and factors.

Lord Finlater has long pursued a very wise measure for encouraging a spirit of planting amongst his tenants, which cannot be too strongly recommended; he gives them, at the termination of their lease, every third tree, or its value in money, which they have planted during the lease's existence. In the mills and distilleries of this county swine are reared in considerable numbers, which are chiefly purchased by the Aberdeen butchers for exportation, owing to the dislike which the peasantry in the Highlands have in general to pork and bacon, which in some parts are held in utter aversion.

In proceeding to Fochabers, distant about eleven miles, I was much pleased to observe the respectable appearance of the peasants' cottages, which were generally built of stone and clay, pointed with lime, neatly thatched, and having

a small window or two. Potatoes are here much cultivated.

For a considerable distance before I reached Fochabers, the vast plantations of the Duke of Gordon spread themselves before the view; and the name of his Grace was mentioned with all the homage due to that of a great Chieftain or a little Prince. The town stands at the western extremity of Banffshire, on the river Spey, and is neat, thriving, and handsome. I was as unfortunate at Gordon-castle as at Duff-house: I had a letter of introduction to his Grace, and he had also just left the castle before my arrival, with a shooting party, for another part of the Highlands. The grand entrance to the park is very near the town. The road to the house winds through a rich green lawn, skirted with shrubs and trees to the castle, which stands on a low flat, and is surrounded with beautiful plantations; it exhibits a prodigious front of five hundred and sixty-eight feet from east to west, and has the appearance of a modern structure. The tower of the ancient castle is still preserved in the southern front, above which it rises. The hall is small, in proportion to the external magnificence of this pile, and contains a few beautiful busts and statues. Angelica Kauffman appears to have been the favourite artist of the family; several copies by her from Dominichino, Titian, and Guerchino, embellish some of the apartments,

which are handsome. There is a beautiful portrait of the Duchess, by Sir Joshua Reynolds. A more frank and lovely face I never beheld. The beautiful conceits of Cowley were present to my mind as I gazed upon it:—

> "Love in her sunny eyes does basking play,
> Love walks the pleasant mazes of her hair;
> Love does on both her lips for ever stray,
> And sows and reaps a thousand kisses there."

There is another portrait of the Duke, by Raeburn, as I was informed. This part of Scotland is eminently indebted to his Grace for the just and spirited attention which he has paid to planting. The view from the leads of the castle is very extensive and beautiful, and the eye is refreshed and gladdened by the appearance of a great park and an interminable forest, in which I was told there were vast numbers of mountain deer, though I saw none.

The road to Elgin, distant about ten miles, is bad and sandy. The soil of Morayshire is for the most part a sandy loam, in some places sandy gravel, and considerable tracts of fertile clay. This town is the capital of Morayshire, and is situated in a plain, on the banks of the small river Lossie; it is very ancient, and is said to derive its name from a Norwegian Earl of Orkney, who conquered this and some of the adjoining country in 927, and whose name was Helgy. The church and the gaol are old and ugly

buildings, and both encumber and disfigure the principal street, in the middle of which they stand.

There are scarcely any manufactures, and very little trade, in the town, which in consequence displays the appearance both of poverty and idleness. The celebrated ruins of its cathedral, to which I hastened as soon as I had finished a rather late dinner at a dirty inn, are the only attractions to a stranger. In my way to the spot a Ciceroni followed me with great assiduity, and at last begged to shew me the cathedral, the history of which, he observed, he knew better than any one in Elgin: I accordingly asked him when it was erected? Answer—"I cannot exactly say, but it was a long time since."—"To what religious order did it belong?"—I never heard of any.—"When did it fall into decline?"—"That I do not ken." After such specimens of his knowledge I dismissed the poor creature with a douceur, who seemed to be more prompted by the penury that reigned around, than by any passion for antiquity, in thus offering me his services. I should be doing great injustice to the people of this part of Scotland if I were to represent this vagabond as a specimen of the rest of the lower orders. In a field near the town I heard two men, very meanly clad, one of whom held a book in his hand, disputing upon the construction of a passage in Macbeth. Here it is with pleasure I mention

the two following anecdotes, to show how generally intellectual the peasantry of Scotland are. A lady of rank said, that, seeing a shepherd of her father's lying upon the side of a hill reading, curiosity led her to ask him what he was reading, when she found it was a volume of the Spectator.

At another time, being desirous to witness the piety of the Scottish peasantry, she went into a peasant's cottage on a Sunday evening, and requested to be permitted to attend their family devotion, upon which the peasant placed a bit of carpet before her to kneel upon; and, when all the family were knelt, he commenced an extemporaneous prayer, full of sound sense and fervid devotion.

I proceeded to the ruins of the cathedral alone, which are very fine, and highly interesting. The commencement of its fall arose from an order of the Privy Council of Scotland in 1568 for stripping off its lead, an act in which the cathedral I described at Aberdeen was also a participator, for the purpose of being sold in Holland, to raise money for paying the troops. The ship which contained the sacrilegious spoil sunk soon after it had left the port of Aberdeen, not without many a shrewd comment from the superstitious, who distinctly beheld the avenging retribution of Heaven in the event. The architect and the

antiquary may perhaps be gratified by the following description of this beautiful and venerable pile, in its perfect form, by Shaw:—" This church, when entire, was a building of Gothic architecture inferior to few in Europe; it stood due east and west, in the form of a Jerusalem cross, ornamented with five towers, whereof two parallel stood on the west side, one in the middle, and two on the east end. Betwixt the two towers at the west end was the great porch, or entrance. This gate is a concave arch, twenty-four feet broad in base, and twenty-four in height, terminating in a sharp angle. On each side of the doors, in the sweep of the arch, are eight fluted pilasters, six feet and a half high, adorned with a chapiter, from which arose sixteen pilasters, which meet in the key of the arch. There were porticoes on each side of the church eastward, for the traverse, or cross, which were eighteen feet broad without the walls. To yield sufficient light to a building so large, besides the great windows in the porticoes, and a row of attic windows in the walls, each six feet high above the porticoes, there was in the west gable, above the gate, a window, in form of an acute-angled arch, nineteen feet broad in the base, and twenty-seven in height; and in the east gable, between the turrets, a row of fine parallel windows, each two feet broad and ten high. Above these are five more, each seven feet; and over all a circular window, near ten feet in diameter.

In the heart of the wall of the church, and leading to all the upper windows, there is a channel or walk round the whole building.

" The grand gate, the windows, the pillars, the projecting table, the pedestals, cordons, &c. are adorned with foliage, grapes, and other carvings. Let us, after describing the body of the church, take a view of the chapter-house, commonly called " the Apprentices' Aisle," a curious piece of architecture, standing on the north side of the church, and communicating with the choir by the vaulted vestry. The house is an exact octagon, thirty-four feet high, and the diagonal breadth within the walls thirty-seven feet. It is arched and vaulted at the top, and the whole arched roof supported by one pillar in the centre of the house. Arched pillars from every angle terminate in the grand pillar. This pillar, nine feet in circumference, is crusted over with sixteen pilasters, or small pillars, alternately round and fluted, and twenty-four feet high, adorned with a chapiter, from which arise sixteen round pillars, that spread along the roof, and join at the top with the pillars (five in number) rising from every side of the octolateral figure. There is a large window on every side of seven, and the eighth side communicates with the choir. In the north wall of this chapter-house there are five stalls cut, by way of niches, for the bishop (or the dean, in the bishop's absence) and the dignified

clergy to sit in. The middle stall of the bishop or dean is larger, and is raised a step higher, than the other four. They were all lined with wainscot. The length of this cathedral is two hundred and sixty-four feet, and its breadth thirty-five feet; the length of the traverse is one hundred and fourteen; the height of the west tower, not including the spire, is eighty-four feet; the height of the spire in the centre was one hundred and ninety-eight feet, and the height of the eastern turrets sixty feet. The height of the side-walls is thirty-six feet. The spires of the two west towers are fallen, but the stone-work remains. The great tower is gone. The two eastern turrets, being winding staircases, and vaulted at top, are entire. The walls of the choir and the chapter-house are tolerably entire, but the walls of the nave and traverse are mostly fallen."

The family mausoleum of the noble house of Gordon is within the walls of this cathedral. Although history informs us that the ecclesiastical buildings in the north were not assailed with the ferocity which the reformers directed against similar structures in the south, yet the cause before stated, and the unsparing hand of Time, have rendered the Cathedral of Elgin much less entire than the Abbey of Melrose, and even a greater sufferer than that of Jedburgh.

The food of the farmers' servants is very simple in this, as well as in all the northern counties in Scotland. On week-days their ordinary breakfast is porridge made of oatmeal, ate warm with milk or small beer; their dinner a kind of flummery, called sowens, which I saw for the first time used in the Lunatic Asylum at Aberdeen, made from the bran of oatmeal, and generally eaten with milk; and for supper greens or cabbages, either cut small or mashed, and afterwards boiled, with an addition of oatmeal and salt; at each meal they use bread made of oats, bere, and peasmeal. Broth made of pot-barley, with greens and roots, and a little butcher's meat, "solemnize the Lord's."

CHAP. XVIII.

THE DANES—ROAD TO FORRES—FORRES—THE WEIRD SISTERS—SHANKS' NAGGY—PEASANTS' CIVILITY—NAIRN—PEASANTS' HUMANITY—FORT ST. GEORGE—CULLODEN—THE BATTLE—PRINCE CHARLES—AN HONOURABLE ROGUE—THE THREE ROBBERS—ANECDOTES OF THE PRETENDER—ROYAL MAGNANIMITY—FAMILY ANECDOTES OF FLORA MACDONALD—INVERNESS—THE PRISON—THE ACADEMY—NATIONAL DELICACY.

IN this county (Murrayshire) are to be seen many monuments of the Danes, who are mentioned by the Scottish historians to have landed in Moray about 1008, when Malcolm the Second marched against them, and was defeated near Forres; after which the invaders brought over their families, and retained their conquests for some time, until, by several signal victories obtained over them at Luncarty, Barrie, and Mortlich, they were obliged to quit the country. Buchannan mentions, that Moray, from its pleasantness, and the profit arising from its fruit-trees, surpasses all the other counties in Scotland. The best orchards are often found about deserted castles and the mouldering fragments of religious houses. However fruit might be cultivated here in the time of Buchannan, I believe it

to be now much neglected, for in the capital of the county I could procure none.

Upon leaving Elgin I rambled over ground which the Muse of Shakspeare has rendered so celebrated. Just before I quitted the inn, I made my landlord smile, by asking, in the language of *Macbeth*, " How far is't call'd to Forres?" (my next stage, which I found was about twelve miles.) He wanted much to detain me, to hear him explain, with an apparently copious knowledge of dramatic geography, the various places in Morayshire in which all the wonderful events so sublimely described by Shakspeare occurred to *Macbeth*. The road to Forres is extremely dull and uninteresting, and I should have felt little objection to have had its monotony relieved even by some of the weird sisterhood, however *withered and wild in their attire*. The town stands on a gently-rising ground, near the bay of Findhorn; it is very ancient, gloomy, and dirty. Poverty seemed to hang over it as an evil spirit. In the street I saw several squalid figures, who induced me to think that the race of Macbeth's witches was not quite extinguished; and I was glad to take my departure for Nairn, distant about eleven miles; on my way to which I passed very near Dyke, in the parish of which, conjecture has placed the scene which leads to the catastrophe of Shakspeare's tragedy.

It is thought that Hardmoor, on the western side of the park of Brodie-house, was the spot where *Macbeth* and *Banquo* were first saluted by the weird sisters—

> " —Each at once her choppy finger laying
> Upon her skinny lip."

Holinshed says, " It fortuned as *Macbeth* and *Banquo* journeyed towards to Fores, where the King *(Duncan)* then lay, they went sporting by the way, without other company, save only themselves, when suddenly, in the midst of a laund, there met them three women, in strange and wild apparel, resembling creatures of the elder world."

At Forres the only chaise in the place was engaged, and it was with difficulty I procured a horse, and that appeared to be nearly half starved; at first I had every reason to apprehend that I should be obliged to ride what the Scotch call " Shanks' Naggy," that is, proceed on foot.

This equipment enabled me to observe the natural kindness and civility of the lower people, which with pleasure I record. A few miles before I reached Nairn I came to a gloomy heath, from which two roads diverged, and I knew not which to take: the night was advancing, I was alone, and all was silent. In this dilemma I rode back to a little *black town*, which I had passed, consisting of some miserable turf hovels, the inhabitants of which had all

retired to rest. After knocking at the door of one of them for some time, a tall athletic peasant, whose slumbers appeared to have been as sound as health and innocence generally unite to render them, addressed me with the usual salutation, "What's u wull?" Upon my telling him my situation, instead of giving me any directions, he came out, and, with no other covering than a shirt, insisted upon walking by the side of my horse for a mile, till he had seen me out of the possibility of mistaking my road, which he did with the most perfect good humour, and at parting refused to accept a douceur for such extraordinary attention: indeed he appeared to be hurt that I should have offered it.

As I approached Nairn the country seemed very much to improve in picturesque beauty, as it was displayed under a clear star-light night and brilliant moon, which faintly unfolded the shores of Cromarty, whilst the waves of the Frith of Murray quietly murmured along the sands upon which I moved, and Fancy seemed to hear

> "Airy tongues, that syllable men's names,
> On sands and shores."

After crossing a bridge over the river Nairn, I entered the capital of Nairnshire, which is small, but tolerably neat, and agreeably situated on a rising bank; and met with

every comfortable accommodation which an excellent inn could afford me. With the exception of an agreeable and picturesque prospect, there is nothing to detain the traveller at Nairn. Upon the Castle-hill, on the south side of the town, once stood a royal fort, of which the Thanes of Cawdor were hereditary constables.

In the small county of Nairn there are no manufactures; the people are generally poor: many of them in the summer and harvest visit the southern districts, and maintain themselves at home in the winter with the money which they receive from their summer labours. The Frith of Murray abounds with small herrings, which, with potatoes, constitute the principal food of the lower classes.

Having been informed, but, as it proved, erroneously, that I should see Macbeth's Castle at Inverness, instead of proceeding to Calder-castle, from which the sanguinary usurper derived his second title, and some of the ancient parts of which are still remaining, I went direct to Fort George. Nairn may be considered as the eastern boundary of the Scottish language: upon my quitting it I found the Erse every where spoken. The male children wear philibegs, and the women and children go without shoes and stockings; the transition was not a little striking. The day was stormy, and I thought myself fortunate in procuring

a neat chaise and a good pair of horses, and a driver who spoke very intelligible Scotch, and, as I was told, good Gaelic. The views of the sea, the mouth of Cromarty, the shores, and the adjoining mountains, losing their heads in the clouds, were fine and frequent objects. A short distance from Fort George I passed a fine Highland town, the characteristic architecture of which I shall hereafter describe. Curiosity led me to stop the carriage, and enter one of the huts, all of which were very rude and simple, and, at a little distance, resembled so many peat or turf stacks: yet under this lowly shed I saw a spectacle which would have done honour to a palace. In one corner, upon a bed of heath, two girls, about sixteen and seventeen years old, were lying, extremely unwell, attended by a handsome-looking woman, the owner of the hut, who was administering a little broth to one of them. She told my driver, in Erse, that they were sisters, who, in going to Banff on their way from Caithness about a week before, had both been seized with a fever; that they asked for a little food and a night's lodging of her, and that she had done all in her power for them, and was happy to see that they were recovering under her care. As the man translated this artless display of feeling and humanity, I observed the fine eyes of this excellent woman brighten with pleasure. When I offered my mite, she declined it; but, upon my explaining, through my interpreter, that I wished to leave

it for her poor patients, she received it with many thanks, mingled with much courtesy.

The outer works of Fort George, rising from the sandy level in which it stands, almost prevent that celebrated fortification from being very visible until the entrance through its pallisades is passed. This fortress has a high reputation for the admirable skill which has been displayed in its construction, which, as I beheld it with an unmilitary eye, I cannot technically explain. The grand parade is in front, where there is a line of handsome houses forming the residence of the Governor and Fort-Major; and behind is a large square, and some streets, containing the barracks, chapel, magazines, and workshops, constructed to accommodate about two thousand men. It was built in 1746, to support the British authority in the Highlands. It stands on a barren sandy spot, and commands the passage of the Frith against vessels proceeding that way to Inverness. The view from the ramparts is very grand and very melancholy; the German Ocean rolls with violence through the narrow strait, which almost separates the great and lesser Friths, and the eye wanders in gloom amongst the bleak and wild mountains of the upper Highlands, rising in sullen majesty from the opposite shore.

Here I was again disappointed. I had a letter of

introduction to the Governor, but he was gone to Inverness; however, in his absence I experienced every attention and politeness from one of the officers. In this fortification the Irish rebel, O'Connor, and his associates, were confined: they could scarcely be more effectually separated from the power of doing mischief. Fort George may be considered as a town in itself; there is none in its neighbourhood. The traveller will find a good inn in part of the barracks. Vast quantities of salmon (amongst which the seals make great destruction) are caught near Fort George; sometimes the salmon have been seen to leap out of the sea upon the shore, to escape their enemy. The seal much resembles a dog with its ears cut close; it has a thick snout, a wide mouth, and its eyes sunk within its head, which it holds high above the water: it is uncommonly quick-sighted and susceptible of approaching danger, to observe and elude which it is constantly rolling from side to side; it is of course very difficult to destroy: a seal yields a great quantity of oil, and its skin makes a fine sort of leather.

The road to Inverness winds along the shores of the lesser Murray Frith, which, bounded by mountains in almost every direction, resembles a vast lake. I quitted my chaise, and visited the celebrated Moor of Culloden; there is nothing worth this trouble, unless it be more forcibly to recollect

the memorable incidents of the 16th of April, 1746, which decided the hopes of the expatriated family of the Stuarts. The battle of that day, so distinguished in the history of the times, would, in the present era of military carnage, be considered as little more than an affair of posts. On the evening preceding the engagement, the young Prince Charles Edward slept at Culloden-house, adjoining the field of battle, the residence of the ancient family of Forbes. Distraction and insubordination had made great inroads in the rebel army. On the day before mentioned, the royal army, commanded by the Duke of Cumberland, commenced their march from Nairn, in five lines, of three battalions each, led by Major-General Huske on the left, Lord Sempell on the right, and Brigadier Mordaunt in the centre, flanked by the cavalry, commanded by Generals Hawley and Bland, who at the same time covered the cannon on the right and left. In this order they marched about eight miles, when a detachment of Kingston's Horse, and of the Highlanders, having advanced before the rest of the army, discovered the van of the rebels, commanded by the young Pretender; both armies formed in order of battle: the royal army amounted to eight thousand eight hundred and eleven men, the rebel to eight thousand three hundred and fifty, so that there was little disparity. About two in the afternoon the rebels began to cannonade the King's army, but their artillery, consisting only of a few four-pounders, being ill-

served, did little execution, whilst the fire from their enemies was very effective, and produced great disorder. Severely annoyed by this fire, the front line of the rebels, amounting to about five hundred of the clans, charged the right of the royal army with their accustomed impetuosity, in order to draw the troops forward. One regiment was disordered by the weight of this column, but two battalions advancing from the second line arrested their career, upon which they turned their whole force upon the left, when they attempted to flank the front line; this movement was however defeated by the advancing of Wolfe's regiment, supported by cannon, which opened upon them with cartridge-shot. General Hawley, with some Highlanders, had opened a passage through some stone walls to the right for the horse, which advanced on that side, whilst the horse on the King's right wheeled off on their right, dispersed their body of reserve, and met in the centre of their front line in their rear, when, being repulsed in the front, and great numbers cut off, the rebels fell into the greatest confusion. A dreadful carnage was made by the cavalry on their backs; however, some part of the foot still preserved their order; but the Kingston Horse from the reserve gallopped up briskly, and did terrible execution amongst the fugitives. A total defeat instantly followed, with the loss of two thousand five hundred killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, on the part of the rebels, and of two hundred only on the side of the royal army.

The young Pretender had his horse shot under him during the engagement, and after the battle retired to the house of a factor of Lord Lovat, about ten miles from Inverness, where he rested that night: the scene of desolation which followed was horrible, and can be justified only by the severe policy of every where impressing the disaffected with terror and dismay.

The Highlanders were buried by their friends the next day, who dug holes for them on the moor, where several green elevated spots are still to be seen, which, upon being opened, are found to contain human bones, and the country-people often find small cannon and musket-balls. The Genius of the place seems to whisper—" Grey stones and heaped up earth shall mark me to future times. When the hunter shall sit by the mound, and produce his food at noon, ' Some warrior rests here,' he will say."

All the perilous adventures of Charles II. after the battle of Worcester were renewed in the fugitive history of the young Pretender after the battle of Culloden. For some days he wandered in the country. Sometimes, without food or attendant, he sought refuge in caves and cottages. Sometimes he lay in a forest, with one or two companions of his distress, continually pursued by the troops of the conqueror, who offered a reward of 30,000*l.* for taking

him, dead or alive. In the course of his wanderings he had occasion to trust his life to the fidelity of above fifty individuals, who, to their eternal honour, refused to enrich themselves by a violation of the rights of hospitality.

An extraordinary instance of incorruptible fidelity occurred in the course of his miserable rambles. A poor cottager, of the name of M'Jan, who was upon principle hostile to his cause, and who, on account of a severe season, was, with his family, in a state of starvation, received the wretched wanderer, and at the hazard of his life committed depredations to procure him sustenance, when an immense reward lay within his reach, and with powerful temptation invited him to surrender up his guest.

The fate of this generous being was as singular as his conduct to the Prince. In a season of great scarcity, he stole a cow, to save his family from dying of hunger, for which he was tried, convicted, and executed. A little before his execution he took off his bonnet, and thanked God he had never betrayed a trust, never injured the poor, and never refused a share of what he had to the stranger and to the needy. The King, when he heard of the fate of this poor but noble fellow, is said magnanimously to have declared, that, had he known his circumstances in proper

time, he would have raised him above the cruel necessity of stealing a cow for his subsistence.

Another instance of the integrity of the Highland character is related. One day, after the hapless wanderer had walked from morning till night without having tasted food, he ventured to enter a house, the owner of which he knew was, like the last man, hostile to his views. As he entered he addressed the master of the house in the following manner: "The son of your King comes to beg a little bread and a few clothes. I know your present attachment to my adversaries; but I believe you have sufficient honour not to abuse my confidence, or take advantage of my distressed situation. Take these rags, that have for some time been my only covering; you may probably restore them to me one day, when I shall be seated on the throne of my ancestors." This affecting appeal awakened pity in the breast of the owner of the house, who afforded him all the assistance in his power, and never divulged his secret.

A few other anecdotes, connected with the fate of the unhappy adventurer, not generally known, and which reflect unfading honour upon the incorruptible integrity of the parties concerned, may not be uninteresting. After

this battle the gallant young Captain Mackenzie wandered with a few other adherents of the Prince, whom he remarkably resembled in face and person. In every part of this country, parties of royalists were distributed, for the purpose of seizing upon the Pretender: one day the Captain and his little band were discovered and pursued, some of whom fled, and others threw down their arms and implored for mercy; but upon observing that his pursuers seemed very anxious to take him, he concluded that they mistook him for the Prince; he accordingly, to confirm them in their mistake, defended himself with all the fury of desperation; upon which, to secure the enormous reward offered for the head of the Pretender, they shot him; when he exclaimed, as he expired, "Villains, you have shot your Prince!" thinking by this gallant stratagem to abate the ardour of their pursuit after the royal fugitive. His head was immediately severed from his shoulders, and brought into the camp by those who slew him with great exultation, when they were mortified by being informed by a soldier, who knew the gallant Captain, that it was the head of Mackenzie, instead of the Pretender.

The Pretender at this time found an asylum with three robbers, who were brothers, and who felt no disgrace in living by rapine, like a singular person of corresponding character before mentioned, but would have thought it

an indelible stain to have betrayed the being, who, in the hour of misery and desertion, sought shelter under their protection. One of these brothers used to venture every day into the English camp, disguised as a fisherman, where he procured wheaten bread, and had even address to get the newspapers from the officers' servants; and also abundance of gingerbread, of which the unhappy Prince was very fond. In these perilous visits he used constantly to hear proclaimed at the drum-head, in Erse and English, a reward of 30,000*l.* for the head of the adventurer.

At length the Prince was safely conducted on board of a boat, and endeavoured to make for the Western Isles. When they left the main land they were afraid of steering direct for Sky; and in consequence of having heard that there was a ship of war at anchor, and that armed boats were stationed at every landing place, they were obliged to keep at sea all that day, during which they were overtaken by a storm. When the rowers became exhausted the Prince relieved them by turns, and, when the storm subsided, sung, and amused them by endeavouring to learn Gaelic songs; on this, as on all other occasions, displaying a cheerful philosophy, except when he heard an unhappy story of any of his unfortunate adherents. In this melancholy condition their little sea-store was destroyed by the sea-water which they shipped. On the following night

they approached the shores of Rasay; and it being a fine moon-light evening, they were seen by the Laird or his brother, who warned them from the landing-place to depart, as Rasay, as well as Sky, was occupied by the royal forces, and brought them some bread, wine, and brandy. Compelled to put out again to sea, they were the next morning chased by one of the King's cutters into South Uist, an island belonging to the Clanronald family: in this dire dilemma the Prince escaped by ordering the boatmen to turn a point of projecting rock, upon which he leaped, and concealed himself in a cave amongst the rocks: the boatmen escaped by pretending not to understand the English language, and one of them contrived to inform the lady of the place of the Pretender's landing, who, on account of the absence of her husband, at first felt extremely embarrassed, in a contest between sympathy and duty, what to do.

From this painful situation she was relieved by Miss Flora Macdonald, who happened to be her guest, and undertook the protection of the wanderer. She accordingly, the better to escape the vigilant observation of the soldiers, upon the ebbing of the tide wandered to the beach with her maid, apparently in search of shells; and as the attention of her maid was engaged at some distance from her, she stole into the cave of the Prince with some wine and

food, and returned without having been observed. She afterwards conveyed a female dress to him, and requested a pass from the commanding officer for herself and an Irish maid, called Betty Bourke, whom she said she had brought over, for her mother. As this great strapping Irish servant, the Prince got off with his fair and youthful protectress to the island of Sky, where they arrived on a Sunday afternoon.

They were met by Flora Macdonald's stepfather, Macdonald of Kingsburgh, a man of great integrity, who, when informed of the secret by his daughter, resolved to render her distinguished charge every assistance in his power. The particulars that followed, till the Prince quitted Sky, are given in Mr. Boswell's very entertaining Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides, page 180, to which I refer my reader. Upon quitting Sky, Prince Charles entered Loch Nevish, to the westward of Loch Ackeig. Whilst he was secreting himself in the glens of this district, four hundred men, under the command of General Campbell, arrived on one side of him, and five hundred more, under Captain Scott, on the other, and began to form a circle round him. In this desperate situation the Prince sent to Donald Cameron, of Glenpean, who, under favour of a dark night, safely conducted him through a pass strongly guarded by soldiers, during which they were obliged to

creep upon their hands and knees, so close to their enemies that they distinctly heard them talk, and saw them walking between them and their fires; after this their dangers thickened, for they had to pass through a chain of little camps, twenty-seven in number, through which, at night, Donald Cameron, by way of experiment, passed alone, and returned in safety to the Prince, whom he conducted through the line without interruption. Before they set out, Donald said to the young fugitive, "Oh! Sir, my nose is yuicking," that is, itching, "which is a sign to me that we have great risks and dangers to go through." When they had accomplished this perilous enterprise, the Prince said to his faithful guide, "Well, my brave Donald, how does your nose now?"—"It is better now," replied he, "but it still yuicks a little."—The share which Flora Macdonald and her father had in the escape of the Prince led to their apprehension, and they were conveyed as prisoners to London. Her heroic and noble conduct during her examination excited the surprise and admiration even of the Sovereign, and led to her own enlargement and that of others. During her stay in London, after her discharge, she became an object of great public attention, and persons of the highest distinction loaded her with kindnesses and civilities, which she received with a very becoming grace and diffidence.

The unfortunate Charles, after the most marvellous escapes, often hemmed round by his pursuers, but still rescued by some providential and marvellous interposition, at last received intelligence that a privateer of St. Maloes, hired by his adherents, was arrived in Lochranach, in which he embarked in the most wretched attire, consisting of a short threadbare coat of black frize, over which was a common Highland plaid, girt round him by a belt, from which hung a pistol and a dagger. He had not changed his linen for many weeks; his eyes were hollow, his visage wan, and his constitution greatly impaired by famine and fatigue. To the honour of Ireland, two faithful natives of that country, Sullivan and Sheridan, who had participated with him in his calamities, Cameron of Lockiel, his brother, and a few other adherents to his cause, accompanied him on board, when they set sail for France, and reached Roseau, near Morlaix, in Bretagne, after having been chased by two English ships of war. I have been informed from good authority that his present Majesty, with characteristic magnanimity, allows from his private purse a pension of 2,000*l.* per annum to the personage known by the name of the Comtesse D'Albany, widow of the unfortunate Charles Stuart, grandson of King James the Second, who has been dead some years. She is a Princess of the house of Holberg, and lived at Brussels, where she was married.

She is allied to many noble families in this country. This lady had a dower assigned to her out of the old French funds, which were destroyed in the Revolution, and she was entirely supported by her brother-in-law, the Cardinal of York, upon whose death she became absolutely destitute. It is well known that his Majesty also allowed an annuity of 6,000*l.* to the Cardinal, who was left unprovided for by the French Revolution, which annuity he enjoyed to the day of his death.

I know of no Caledonian lady who has obtained more celebrity than Flora Macdonald. She was the daughter of Macdonald of Milton, in Uist, a cadet of the family of Macdonald of Clanronald; she married Major Macdonald, of Kingsburgh. A report has gone abroad that this romantic friend of the young Pretender *is still alive*, and that she enjoys a pension upon the Irish establishment; this report is unfounded, as I am favoured by the assurance of my much-respected friend, Mr. Hector Macdonald Buchannan, who is well acquainted with the family, that she died in the year 1790 in the isle of Sky, and that he inserted her death in the Annual Register, by the desire of her son, Major Macdonald, since also dead. She has another son still living, Major or Colonel John Macdonald, of the Honourable East-India Company's service, who married Miss Chambers, daughter of Sir Robert Chambers, a brave and active officer, and who was Lieutenant-Colonel in the

regiment of volunteers raised and commanded by the late Right Honourable William Pitt. The person mistaken in Ireland for Flora Macdonald is *Florance Macdonnell*, whose name stands in the pension-list of officers' widows in Ireland, and who resides at Ratagan, in the parish of Glomshiel, in the county of Ross. Boswell describes the celebrated Flora to have been "a little woman, of a genteel appearance, and uncommonly mild and well bred."

After a very agreeable ride, I reached Inverness, the capital of the Highlands, and the seat of Highland elegance and refinement, and soon experienced all the comforts of an hotel which would be respected in the most fashionable parts of London; and there are other good inns. This town is a port, with twenty creeks dependent upon it, part on the Murray Frith, to the east, and part on the north of the town, extending as far as the south border of the county of Caithness. The salmon-fisheries here and at Fort George are let to London fishmongers. The town, which consists of two principal streets, crossing each other, stands upon the eastern side of the beautiful river Ness, having considerable suburbs on the other side, which are united by an ancient bridge of seven arches.

The view of the town from the suburbs over this bridge, looking a little to the northward, is said much to resemble Basle, in Switzerland. Both Gaelic and English are pro-

miscuously spoken here, but the ear of a stranger is almost immediately sensible of the pleasing softness with which the English language is here pronounced: it has neither the accent of the Highland nor the Lowland English language, but possesses a sweetness and purity peculiarly its own. It has been well compared to very pure English spoken with a soft foreign tone. The reasons assigned for the purity with which English is here spoken, both with respect to pronunciation and grammar, are, that not being the mother tongue it is learnt more by book, as Greek and Latin are learnt, than by conversation, that there have been garrisons of English soldiers in the neighbourhood ever since the time of Cromwell, and that, in consequence of there being little comparative communication between these counties and the Lowlands, the corrupt phrases and pronunciation of the latter are but little heard. It is very whimsical to find, in this as well as other Highland towns on the western coast, that frequently the inhabitants speak Gaelic on one side of the street and English on the other. There is a great appearance of industry and opulence, urbanity and refinement, amongst the inhabitants. The females are remarked for their beauty. There is an elegant suite of assembly-rooms; and in the winter, I am informed, the town is extremely gay.

The houses are lofty, and the streets are tolerably clean. One of the principal buildings is the court-house; and the

tolbooth, which is a very handsome modern building, surmounted by an elegant spire. The prison, which I inspected, is airy and strong, but destitute of a court-yard. I was surprised to see one prisoner, and only one, whose legs were fastened close together with irons, such as are used to bolt the hands of a deserter, so that he could not move without great difficulty: upon inquiring of the gaoler if he had attempted to escape, I was answered in the negative; and there was another prisoner, (but he was a rich rogue,) committed for more serious charges, who was not fettered at all. The gaoler informed me that the former had been thus severely ironed for some months. This was the only prisoner I saw in irons in Scotland. The room for the debtors is airy, and the prison allowance liberal. The court-room, to which there is a passage from the grated gallery of the prison, is spacious and handsome.

I ascended the hill where the Castle of Macbeth stood, the walls of which were standing when Dr. Johnson visited Inverness, but of which, to my disappointment, there were now no traces; I was rewarded, however, for my trouble, by a beautiful prospect of the town, rich corn-fields, the Frith, and many a cloud-capp'd mountain. In this castle it is believed that Macbeth murdered Duncan: the bed on which this foul deed was perpetrated is, I was informed, to be seen at Calder-castle.

Inverness.

Drawn by Sir John Carr.

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The academy established here in 1790 may be considered as partaking very much of the character and consequence of an university, and is much and justly celebrated. The building containing the schools is more extensive than ornamental. Latin, Greek, French, mathematics, writing, arithmetic, drawing, and geography, are taught here with great success, under the tuition of nine masters, who have small salaries, and chiefly depend on the fees of their different classes, by which, as before, upon a somewhat similar occasion, has been observed, their interest is placed on the side of their duty. The number of youths at this academy was two hundred. The academy spring sessions or terms commence the 2d of January, and close the 28th of May. The autumnal sessions commence the 15th of July, and close the 20th of December. Besides this school for boys, there is a seminary, as I was informed, for young ladies, who are sent to it from remote parts of the Highlands.

Misfortune has always strong claims upon the feelings of a Highlander, and I could not help being highly gratified by a little rebuke which I received in this town from one whose loyalty and devotion to the august family now upon the throne are exemplary: upon designating the royal exile by the usual name of the *Pretender*—"Do not call him the Pretender," said he, "he was the Prince Charles."

CHAP. XIX.

POLICY OF EDUCATION — ITS EFFECTS IN THE HIGHLANDS — ITS GENERAL IMPORTANCE—SINGULAR EFFECTS OF ITS ADVANTAGES — SCOTTISH MISSIONARIES ON THE MOUNTAINS OF CAUCASUS—A COMPARISON — SCOTTISH AND IRISH PEASANTS CONTRASTED—THE MINERS' LIBRARY—SCHOOLS FOR EDUCATION—THE PARISH SCHOOLS—THE HIGHLAND SCHOOLS—THE CHARITY SCHOOLS—PRIVATE SCHOOLS—REMARKS—ANECDOTE.

POLITICIANS have widely differed with regard to the wisdom of enlightening the poor of a country by education. Upon such a subject men of plain understandings would naturally wonder that any variance of opinion could arise. They would conceive that he who prefers darkness to light, who thinks that the common people are most likely to advance the ends of their creation, that they would be more loyal, more brave, and more virtuous, by continuing in a state of ignorance and stupidity, would, by a parity of reasoning, insist that the blind were the most likely to move with certainty, and the crippled with vigour. But a distempered prejudice still maintains that to illumine the head is to

extinguish the heart; that if the humble are taught reading, writing, and a little useful arithmetic, they will soon fancy themselves under the influence of inspiration, and feel as if they had been intended for some high destiny; that they will desert or disgrace the station of life allotted to them by Providence, and perish upon the dunghill as vagabonds, or by the gallows as forgers. The poor of Scotland seem to have decided this important question: they can read, and yet are loyal; they can write, and yet are honest; they can calculate, and yet are virtuous. By the wise and salutary diffusion of education, particularly in parts which appear to be impenetrable to civilization, upon the sides of frightful mountains, or in dismal glens seldom visited by the rays of Heaven, the astonished and admiring traveller beholds a spectacle at once gratifying and affecting. In a hut of branches and sods, when the hour of labour is over, the young, enlightened by those institutions which do honour to human nature, are seen instructing those who are younger, or consoling the last hours of venerable and sightless age by reading aloud the Scriptures, or some pious book, printed in their own language; yet in this sorry dwelling the benighted traveller may rest in safety amid the howling storm; not a hand will be extended to him but in kindness, not a voice will be raised but to charm his ear with the song of other times, or, if he understands the

language, to store his mind with the wild, romantic, and beautiful effusions of the Gaelic Muse.

It is equally singular and true that one can scarcely meet with a poor man in any part of Scotland who is not possessed of the knowledge particularized in the commencement of this chapter, and to this he frequently adds a little acquaintance with Latin. The results of this system of education, which I shall briefly explain, are of the most beneficent nature. If the poor remain at home, their deportment is sedate, upright, and orderly; if they attempt their fortunes in other countries, they bear with them a superior understanding, and a knowledge sharpened by poverty, which enables them to do honour to any situation, and frequently to improve those arts, studies, and pursuits, by which the power, prosperity, and character of a country, are at once extended and secured.

The emigration of the humbler classes of the Scotch is a subject of frequent remark. Poor, but cultivated, they quit their native country in the pursuit of fortune in other climes not more congenial to merit, but more in want of talent, and better capable of rewarding it. How happy is it that we live in an age and under a constitution which are propitious to genius, under which humility of origin

presents no insurmountable barrier to the advancement of any one, who, to intellect, unites integrity, industry, and prudence.

In the fair pursuit of fortune they spread themselves in the most remote regions of the earth. The celebrated Field-Marshal Keith, who, on account of his having joined King James's party in the old rebellion, when he was about eighteen or nineteen years old, at the instigation of his mother, after the battle of Sheriff-muir was obliged to escape to France, and who afterwards had a great share in the revolution which raised Elizabeth, the daughter of Peter the Great, to the throne of all the Russias, and was afterwards the chief counsellor and companion of the King of Prussia, is said to have related the following anecdote, illustrative of the erratic disposition of the Scotch:—Being sent upon an important mission to a Turkish officer of high rank, he was received with all the honours and solemnities usual upon such occasions in the east, and which so much encumber and procrastinate the issue of matters of business. The Turk, to his surprise, seemed to feel, as he did, a wish to terminate their negotiation as speedily as possible; and upon his learning that the Marshal spoke French, a language with which he too was acquainted, he proposed dismissing their respective attendants, and concluding the objects of their interview in privacy, which the Marshal acceded to.

As soon as the retinues of both these personages had retired, the Turk, to the utter astonishment of the Marshal, walked up to him, and in broad Scotch said, "Weel, man, when was ye last at Aberdeen?" On an explanation, which immediately followed this extraordinary interrogatory, it appeared that this eastern chief was no other than the son of a Scottish peasant, who remembered to have seen Marshal Keith in Aberdeenshire, and who, in the pursuit of ameliorating his condition, had wandered into Turkey, where by his good conduct he had raised himself to Asiatic honours.

The same enterprising spirit has led them to colonize where one might naturally suppose only the most powerful inducements of rapid accumulation of riches could have attracted them. A number of Scotchmen have for the last four years been settled on the mountains of Caucasus, to whom his Imperial Majesty of Russia has granted, with that noble liberality which always characterizes his mind*, a charter

* I have thus spoken of the Emperor Alexander, because I think, in justice, I cannot speak otherwise of him. With my countrymen I know that at present he is not a favourite, but they forget his former noble conduct when he was a free agent, and attribute to his inclination the humiliating scenes in which he has recently acted so conspicuous a part, at a period when it is sufficient only to mention that a French General rules at Petersburgh, and that French agents have complete dominion in all the Russian ports of the Baltic, to prove that, for want of military strength, he is no longer an independent Sovereign. This is neither just nor liberal towards an unfortunate Prince.

of extraordinary rights and privileges, by which, in order to induce them to extend their trade and manufactures in a district thinly peopled, and bordering on the territories of many uncivilized tribes of Mahometans and Heathens, they are placed on the same footing with the Evangelical Society of Sarepta. His Majesty secures to them the perpetual possession of ample allotments of land, as near as possible to the village which they have founded, and they are exempted from a variety of imposts. The free exercise of their religion is confirmed to them; and the administration of their internal affairs is for ever vested in a chief magistrate to be chosen amongst themselves, who is authorized to admit as settlers amongst them every description of Mahometans and Heathens, being freemen, and taking the oath of allegiance to his Imperial Majesty.

Why has the Irish peasantry been so frequently rendered the object of an angry policy? a peasantry derived from the same stock as the Scotch, speaking the same language, whose customs and manners were originally the same, and whose natural talents are, to an extraordinary degree, strong and vivacious? why, but for the want of the same benign spirit of instruction? Were any one who had visited Ireland to make their amelioration the subject of his pen, I am persuaded that the conclusion of all his reasoning would be, *education without proselytism.*

Let us compare, by the assistance of a venerable author, the present with the past condition of the Scottish peasantry. In the year 1698, that illustrious Caledonian patriot, Andrew Fletcher, of Saltoun, who so nobly declared that he would readily lose his life to save his country, and would not do a base thing to serve it, tells us, " There are at this day in Scotland two hundred thousand people begging from door to door; and though the number of them be perhaps double to what it was formerly, by reason of this present great distress, (a famine then prevailed,) yet in all times there have been about one hundred thousand of these vagabonds, who have lived without any regard or subjection either to the laws of the land or even those of God and Nature; fathers incestuously accompanying with their own daughters, the son with the mother, and the brother with the sister. No magistrate ever could discover that they had been baptized, or in what way one in a hundred went out of the world. They are frequently guilty of robbery, and sometimes of murder. In years of plenty many thousands of them meet together in the mountains, where they feast and riot for many days; and at country weddings, markets, burials, and on other public occasions, they are to be seen, both men and women, perpetually drunk, cursing, blaspheming, and fighting together."

These dreadful evils were not mowed down by the sword,

they were not exterminated by ferocious penal laws; they were put to the blush by the mild and salutary precepts of mental illumination, the light of which they could not encounter, and withdrew for ever from its presence. This system of education gives to the manner of a low Scotchman an air of sedateness, acuteness, and consideration, which I have never witnessed in the same class in any other country. A low Irishman frequently shapes his answer by a quick and often erroneous anticipation, before the question propounded is half finished. A Scotchman hears you without interruption, and, after a pause of reflection, conveys a firm, modest, and generally a luminous answer. So strong is the thirst for knowledge amongst the lower orders in Scotland, that small farmers and petty tradesmen are known to form themselves into literary societies; and it is related, upon authority, that the workmen in the lead-mines of the Earl of Hopetoun, at Lead-hills, have a common library, supported by contribution, containing several thousand volumes. These people work only six hours, and therefore have time to gratify this extraordinary passion for literature.

The philanthropic and political reader will, I am sure, be gratified with a brief account of the enlightened system by which these admirable traits in the Scottish character are effected. - Parish schools were created by an Act of Parliament of Scotland, passed in 1646, which enacted that a

school should be established in every parish in Scotland, for the express purpose of educating the poor; it obliges the heritors and ministers of each parish to meet and assess the several heritors with the requisite sum for building a school-house, and to elect a schoolmaster, and modify a salary for him in all time to come. The salary is ordered not to be under one hundred nor above two hundred merks, that is, not under *5l.* 11*s.* 1½*d.* nor above 11*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, and the assessment is to be laid on the land in the same proportion as it is rated for the support of the clergy, and as it regulates the payment of the land-tax. But in case the heritors of any parish, or the majority of them, shall fail to discharge this duty, then the persons forming what is called the Committee of Supply of the County (consisting of the principal landholders), or any five of them, are authorized by the statute to impose the assessment instead of them, on the representation of the presbytery in which the parish is situated. To secure the choice of a proper teacher, the right of election on the part of the heritors, by a statute passed in 1693, chap. 22, is made subject to the review and control of the presbytery of the district, who have a right to examine the person proposed as to his qualifications as a teacher, and as to his proper deportment in office, when settled in it. This election on the part of the heritors is therefore only a presentment of a person for the approbation of the presbytery. The statute of 1646 was

repealed on the accession of Charles II. in 1660, on account of its having been passed during the Commonwealth, and lay dormant until after the Revolution, when it was re-enacted by the Scottish parliament in the same form, and remains in force to this hour. All this was excellent; but the income of the schoolmaster, fixed by the provisions of the Act, and arising also from the compensations of his scholars, was by much too small. This has been in part remedied: the teachers have now a salary of 15*l.* per annum, and a portion of land, varying from three to more acres, according to the quality of the land, a small house to reside in, and a school-room built, and kept in repair by the society. These teachers are Presbyterians, and under the superintendence of the general assembly.

The church establishment of Scotland is favourable to its school establishments; the constant residence of the clergy upon their benefices places the conduct of the schoolmaster and the application of his scholars under the fostering protection of his superintendence, and the teacher himself is often appointed to a vacant benefice.

Instruction in these schools is deeply tinged with religion. The Catechism of the Assembly, the Proverbs of Solomon, and the New and Old Testament, either in English or in Gaelic, impart to the mind of the rustic student a knowledge of the sacred writings, conformably to the doctrines of

Calvin. To preserve their flock, and not to enlarge it by proselytism, seems to have been the sound wisdom of the Scottish legislators. I am assured that proselytism is never attempted. In the country, the English language, writing, and arithmetic, are taught at the rate of six shillings, and Latin at the rate of ten or twelve shillings, a year. In the towns the prices are higher, but in some places lower, than the sums mentioned.

The Highland schools are of more recent institution, and arise from the beneficial effects already experienced from the parish schools. By the 4th George I. chap. 6, it is enacted, " That of the moneys arising from the sale of the Scottish estates, forfeited in the rebellion of 1715, 2000*l.* sterling shall be converted into a capital stock, the interest of which shall be laid out in erecting and maintaining schools in the Highlands."

The charity schools established by the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge are, in the next degree, entitled to our consideration. This association derived its origin from the public spirit of a few private gentlemen in Edinburgh, who, in the beginning of the last century, formed themselves into " A Society for the Reformation of Manners," principally in the Highlands and Hebrides, on account of their remote situation, their total want of schools, the small number of Protestant clergy in the

country, the immense extent of parishes, the little intercourse between them and their ministry (who are separated from them by vast mountainous tracts, mountains, arms of the sea, and rivers often impassable), by their language (a dialect of the ancient Celtic, unintelligible to the inhabitants of the Low Countries of Scotland), the prevalence of popery in many districts, and the influence of clanship. All these circumstances induced them to erect and endow schools, provided with well-qualified teachers, in as many districts of the Highlands as possible, for the instruction of youth in the first principles of religion and literature. Their funds were at first small, but private contributions soon swelled the scanty stream into a noble current; and the subscribers were erected into a body corporate by Queen Ann, in 1709, under the title they now bear; some time afterwards they obtained from the crown an enlargement of their powers, that they might add to their primary objects the cultivation of the most necessary branches of industry: in consequence of which the women in the remote Highlands, who used to be employed, as is frequently the case in uncivilized countries, in the masculine labours of the field, were engaged in sewing, spinning, knitting stockings, and other occupations more appropriate to the sex.

By liberal contributions, and by the great disinterestedness and discretion of all parties concerned, the funds of

this society are in a flourishing condition, though still unequal to the objects of its application, which are continually increasing: the promoters of it have however the happiness of reflecting that they afford every year the elementary branches of education to nearly 16,000 children. The schools of the society are annually visited by two ministers of every presbytery within whose bounds they are stationed; and at these visitations a report is written and transmitted to the society of the number of the scholars, the branches they are taught, and of their proficiency; also of the character and conduct of the teacher, and of the nature of the accomodations furnished to him, in compliance with the rules of the society; and until such report is received at the office of the society, the salary of the teacher is not paid. This society has caused to be translated the Scriptures both of the Old and New Testament, as well as a variety of pious and useful treatises, into the Gaelic language, and by means of their schoolmasters have circulated them through the Highlands and islands.

The Highlanders, it is well known, are very proud of literary distinction; and their ambition to teach others, after they have been taught themselves, is very great. Hence the society have upon their lists more candidates than they can appoint. The expenses of this noble institution are conducted with the greatest economy and integrity.

The following abstracts of the society's establishment for the last two years will exhibit its improving condition :—

	For the Year ending May 1, 1807.	*Salaries.*
181	Schools on the first Patent	£2,645
22	Superannuated Teachers on ditto	200
100	Schools on the second Patent	532
4	Superannuated Teachers on ditto	20
14	Missionaries and Catechists	329
6	Gaelic Bursaries	90
327	Amount of the Schemes.	£3,816

	For the Year up to May 1, 1808.	*Salaries.*
188	Schools on the first Patent	£2,739
23	Superannuated Teachers on ditto	212
15	Missionaries and Catechists	357
6	Gaelic Bursaries	90
101	Schools on the second Patent	536
4	Superannuated Teachers on ditto	20
337		£3,954

Besides these established schools, the lower classes of people in Scotland, where the parishes are large, often combine together, and form private schools of their own. So convinced are the poor people of Scotland of the advantages of education, that they will submit to almost any privation to procure it for their children, in doing which they have to encounter the expense of clothing and feeding them. At the charity-schools no fees are paid. The benefits

derived from these schools to the rural Muse of Scotland are too well known to be enumerated. In opposition to Dr. Johnson's remark, that the schools are deserted in the winter, on account of the scarcity of food, it is a well-known fact that the schools are much more frequented in that season than in summer, when the children of those who are fit for, and are required in, domestic services are most wanted. The winter, moreover, is not penurious of food in the Hebrides, as the natives are too careful not to provide for that gloomy season of the year.

I shall close my account of these great intellectual sources with the following singular remark made upon them by a Scotchman :—A lady of rank, who had a Highlander in her service, whom she employed as her hair-dresser, one morning, as he was adjusting her head, asked him how many traditionary poems concerning Fingal still remained amongst his countrymen; to which he replied, " When any stranger entered a Highland cottage, the first question always was from the family to the guest, " Know you any thing of Fingal, or Ossian, or Oscar?" If he did, he was called upon to recite what he knew; if he did not, they recited it to him; and upon the lady asking how they could treasure up in their memories so many poems, he said, " Oh, madam! before we had so *many schools*, we had long memories."

As another mode of diffusing knowledge in the Highlands, I must not omit to mention, that, a short time before I arrived at Inverness, a weekly newspaper had been established, with every prospect of success, by a very respectable bookseller, Mr. John Young, which, considering the improvements that have been made in the Highlands in agriculture, in external and internal commerce, and the general condition of the people, is likely to be of considerable public advantage, as well as a source of private amusement, by opening new communications of intelligence. It is rather singular that this should have been the first public print in these parts.

CHAP. XX.

INVERNESS CONTINUED—HERRING-FISHERY—THE CALEDONIAN CANAL—HIGHLAND WORKMEN—NATIONAL BENEFITS OF THE CANAL—REMARKS ON INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT—PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS — VITRIFIED FORTS — THE GAELIC LANGUAGE — ANECDOTES OF ITS EFFECTS IN ASIATIC TURKEY.

TO return to Inverness. The population of the town consists of about six thousand persons. The infirmary, built by subscription, near the town, is a very handsome building, most delightfully situated, and does infinite honour as well to the humanity as the taste of those under whose auspices it has been erected. There are also several other very commendable charitable institutions. Several thriving manufactures, such as woollen, hemp, thread, &c. are carried on, though many of them are young; there is also a foundry. Ships of four hundred tons can ride within a mile of the town; and, at spring tides, vessels of half that burden can come up to the quay, close to the town.

Most of the vessels belonging to Inverness convey to London the produce of the manufactures, the fish caught in the river Ness (which is very considerable), the skins of

hares, foxes, goats, rabbits, otters, roes, &c. and return with hardware, haberdashery, and other articles of use or luxury, which are retailed by the tradesmen to the town and county. A shipload of juniper-berries used also, annually, some time back, to be sent to Holland from this place: the juniper grows in great profusion upon the neighbouring hills. The herring-fishery upon the coast is, of late, rather precarious. The Highlanders are very fond of this fish, and hail its first visit, as the Dutch do, with jubilee joy. I saw very fine wheat growing in the neighbourhood of the town, a very rare circumstance in the west part of the Highlands; and the wheaten bread is very good. The crops are here mostly more forward than on the western coast, owing to the climate and soil being much more favourable than in the western Highlands.

Inverness is likely, in the course of a few years, greatly to augment her commercial character and consequence, from a work of Roman magnificence, which, when completed, will be a glorious monument of the enterprise and labour of modern times. The Caledonian Canal commences very near Inverness, which, when finished, will unite the German to the Atlantic Ocean. To many of my readers the details of this stupendous undertaking, so important to the nation at large, will not be very interesting; but I cannot help entering into them

a little, for the sake of others, who may wish to know some of its particulars. The Act of Parliament for effecting this inland navigation from the eastern to the western sea was passed on the 22d of July, 1803. By a line of lochs and rivers Nature seemed to have invited the skill and enterprise of man to the undertaking, and, upon investigation, every part intended to be occupied by the canal was found, with little abatement, to be very favourable to the purpose. It has been considered as probable, that, in more early ages of the world, the immense chasm (almost two-thirds of the length of which is still occupied by water) has been nearly open from sea to sea; and that the land which now separates the lochs has been formed from the decay of the adjoining mountains, wasted by time, and brought down by torrents from rain. As the discussion of the Bill completely unfolded all its objects, they were sufficiently understood by the Commissioners, who held their first meeting on the 30th of the same month, and who set to work with a promptitude not in general very conspicuous in the discharge of public duty in England. This canal opens into Loch Beauly, part of the Murray Frith, and, near Clachnacary, ascends by a cluster of four locks. It was found necessary to alter the course of the Ness, by throwing up an embankment of about a thousand yards in length, and twelve feet in height, above the line of ordinary low water in the river.

Near Inverness the soil is so loose, being composed of gravel and sand, that, in pits sunk for trial, the water rose and fell with the tide, and considerable apprehension was entertained that a proper foundation for the locks, and other necessary masonry, would not have been found; but, at length, one place was discovered of sufficient solidity to answer the purpose. The canal then proceeds through Loch Doughfour, a little loch, which, like some inconsiderable person in society, who is frequently very troublesome, presents the greatest difficulty to the navigation on account of its shallowness, and the quantities of gravel which are carried with great velocity into, and through, this tiny lake: the navigation then continues to Loch Ness, a distance of about seven miles, the advantageous length and form of which, no doubt, determined the undertaking. It is a noble piece of water, twenty-three miles and three quarters long, and in breadth varies from a mile and a quarter to three quarters of a mile, and is nearly straight from one end to the other. Its shores are bold and commanding, and on each side rise lofty, rocky, and rugged mountains, irregularly cut into deep gullies, with frightful precipices. The depth of its water, which has erroneously been said to be unfathomable, is from one hundred and six to one hundred and twenty-nine fathoms (a fathom is six feet) in the middle parts, to eighty-five, seventy-five, or less, near its end, to the east. The sides, except the bays, are very steep, the

rise being a foot in height, to a foot and a half in breadth. This excessive steepness has suggested the propriety of laying down mooring-chains with buoys in the bays, for the use of merchant-vessels intending to anchor in the loch, instead of letting go their anchors in so great a depth of water, as otherwise they would be obliged to do. The convenience of such a project will be very manifest when it is considered that a merchant-ship carries no more hands than are barely sufficient to weigh the anchor, so that, all hands being employed upon that service, the ship is left to drift to leeward, from the time the anchor quits its hold of the ground, until it is brought up to the bows of the vessel: for this reason, in Loch Ness, where the water is so deep, and so little room for drifting, a ship riding upon the lee side, with a wind blowing at all across the loch, would drift upon the shore before she could get her anchor up and make sail. Besides these advantages from mooring-chains with buoys, the expense that would be saved in anchors and cables would be considerable.

It has been ascertained that the bottom of Loch Ness is soft mud, of a dark brownish colour when wet, apparently consisting of the lighter parts of the soil of the surrounding mountains, which innumerable torrents have for ages washed down their sides; and, independently of the mooring-chains, it will afford good anchoring-ground in all

parts. From a journal of the winds and weather, kept from the 1st of May, 1806, to the 1st of May, 1807, the irregularity of the wind in this mountainous region is proved, and will be satisfactory to those who apprehended, as has been generally believed, that so great a valley, rectilinear throughout, would almost constantly draw the wind into a current, traversing it from end to end, a circumstance which would have been highly unfavourable to the navigation of the lakes. By this journal it appears that the wind is not only irregular, but that it is frequently different during the same day at Corpach, at Fort Augustus, and at Clachnacary.

The people in these parts, accustomed only to see the agitation of boats and small vessels in stormy weather upon this lake, are generally of opinion that the squalls and unsteadiness of the winds, which occasionally prevail among the lofty mountains which border this and the other lakes, would be dangerous to the navigation of large vessels, than which nothing can be more erroneous. In proof of the error of the opinion, a small vessel, of fourteen tons burden, was launched on Loch Ness, for the purpose of carrying timber purchased in Glenmorrison and near Port Clare, and this small trader, although undecked, usually completes two voyages a week, including loading and discharging, without interruption; though, being built

for the stowage of timber, she does not make progress to windward so well as a sharper-built vessel, although, in this constant employ, this vessel must very frequently beat to windward the whole length of the lake. Of course, if an imperfect vessel can navigate the lake against the wind in safety, larger and decked vessels can have nothing to apprehend from its squalls and waves.

At the western end of this loch stands Fort Augustus, where the foundation of the lock near this fort, and on Loch Ness, is twenty-four feet below the level of the summer surface of the lake, which, varying in its height ten feet, renders it necessary to cut a new channel for the river through the rock on the north side, in order to get at a solid foundation of rock, the soil being too open to warrant the cutting to so great a depth. The canal from Fort Augustus will ascend about five miles to Loch-Oich, which is about three miles in length, and one quarter broad, and is, in some parts, twenty-six fathoms in depth, and in others only five. This loch will be the summit level of the canal. It is intended to reduce this loch to a greater regularity of depth. From the western end of this loch the canal is continued for about two miles, when it falls into Loch Lochy, a sheet of water ten miles and a half long, and its breadth, at the east end, near three quarters of a mile; from thence it increases, until, in the Bay of Arkeg,

it spreads to about a mile and a quarter, and is from seventy-six to seventy-four fathoms deep in many parts. On one side of this loch are high ridges of rocks and ground, descending abruptly into the lake. At the east end of this lake is a complete little harbour, in which there are from ten to five fathoms water, admirably adapted for giving every protection to the canal, and safe and commodious for ships to lie in. Mooring-chains, with buoys, will be as necessary here as in Loch Ness.

It is intended to cut a new course for the river Lochy, along the bottom of the bank on the south side, where the canal will occupy the deserted part of the present bed of the river, and to raise the lake twelve feet above its present level, by which, on account of the general steepness of its shores, very little land, except at the east end, will be overflowed; and as there is some deep cutting at the summit, it is proposed to remove back the soil now on the surface of the meadow at the east end of the lock, to bring the ground which is to be excavated at the summit to elevate the low ground at the east end, and, when this is raised to the proper height, to cover it again with the soil which had been removed back, with the addition of that which covered the land to be occupied by the canal near the summit.

The canal will then proceed by Corpach to Loch Eil,

which communicates with the Sound of Mull, and is part of the West Sea. At Corpach it is intended to form a sea-lock, to be cut out of the rock, and to make a small bason within it, capable of admitting a number of vessels with the flowing tide, which, after the gates are closed, may ascend the locks at leisure, of which the whole number will be twenty-five, and the number of lock-gates thirty-eight: these, by being in clusters, as they are intended to be, will be much less expensive than in separate locks, on account of the back of one forming the front of the next, whereas separate locks must be complete in all their parts. Upon this canal it is intended to construct bridges similar to those which are at the West-India Docks, and which have been imitated in cast iron at the London Docks: they swing horizontally to each side of the canal, or lock. At the eastern end of Loch Eil stands Fort William, as far as which there is a safe navigation and harbour for shipping. In this manner the junction of the two seas will be effected.

The Lochs Eil and Doughfour are to be deepened by steam-engines, as the scarcity of provender renders the keeping of horses very expensive. The canal is twenty feet deep, fifty wide at bottom, and one hundred and ten feet wide at top, and will admit of the passage of thirty-two-gun frigates, and of course of the largest merchant-vessels. It was originally intended to have cut the canal

so as to admit of forty-four-gun frigates; but not only would the additional cost have been very great, but it was by no means certain that the depth of water in Loch Beauly, near the eastern entrance of the canal, would safely or conveniently admit the passage of frigates of so large a rate at the ordinary high-water depth. The time of passing a thirty-eight feet lock will be about twenty minutes, a forty-feet lock about twenty-two minutes, and a forty-three-feet lock twenty-five minutes. The smallest size of vessels trading to the Baltic is about seventy-five feet in length, twenty-one feet in width, in draught of water twelve feet, and in burden one hundred and twenty tons. The largest size is about one hundred and thirty feet long, thirty-five feet wide, in draught of water nineteen feet, and in burden six hundred and fifty tons.

Timber, stone, lime, &c. have been found at convenient distances. Since June, 1806, the labourers employed, who, the public will be pleased to hear, are almost all Highlanders, have not been so numerous as in the preceding twelvemonth, when their number fluctuated from one thousand one hundred and sixty-three to six hundred and forty-one, whereas, in the last year, the number varied from nine hundred and sixty to five hundred and eighty-one, a larger number being employed during the summer than in the winter months, and of course their numbers are

lessened in the seasons for potatoe-planting, and the herring-fishery. Upwards of 38,700*l.* was paid for labour, from May, 1806, to May, 1807, whereas, in the preceding twelve-month, only 33,800*l.* was paid, although the number of labourers then employed was considerably greater, and although the price of labour has continued very nearly the same, a circumstance attributed to an increase of skill and industry among the workmen, which is said to be very perceptible. Those who reside in the neighbourhood occasionally depart, on account of their domestic occupations, but readily return upon notice being given for their attendance. This increased assiduity amongst the workmen is attributable in a great measure to their being regularly paid every four weeks, without the delay of a single day since the commencement of the work, by which means they have been taught the advantage of industry, and a confidence has been inspired that has operated to keep down the price of materials and workmanship in a degree not otherwise attainable.

As the canal has advanced, temporary huts and sheds have been erected to accommodate this considerable accession of population, and stores of oatmeal have been sold at prime cost: cows are kept, and a brewery has been established; the latter, most wisely, to counteract as far as it can an

excessive use of whisky, which, however, in proper quantities, I should conceive to be necessary to qualify the raw moisture of the climate.

It has been asserted that this undertaking has had no influence in checking Highland emigration, upon the presumption that those who engage themselves as labourers in it are not of that description of Highlanders who feel any disposition to emigrate, a class generally supposed to be composed of little farmers, descended from chieftains; but the reverse of this seems to be the fact: the labour of digging more coincides with the habits of the Highlander than the sedentary occupation of a manufacture, and it is known, that amongst a body of Highlanders, actually embarked on board of a vessel for America, fifty returned on shore before she sailed, upon receiving assurances of employment in the canal, which, when completed, will rival, if not surpass, the celebrated canals of Trolhætta, in Sweden, and of Languedoc.

To find employment for the dispossessed Highlanders, and to restrain, by occupations at home, the spirit of Highland emigration, are objects of no little importance. The extent of the trade which may be expected to receive benefit, with respect to security and dispatch, from the completion of the Caledonian Canal, (omitting the whole

of the trade between the eastern and western coasts of Scotland,) appears, from several official accounts prepared in conformity to an order of the House of Commons of the 11th of February, 1806, to amount, in value of imports and exports, to about two millions six hundred thousand pounds; of course the tolls to be paid for vessels passing through the canal will be very great.

When this union of the seas is effected, the amelioration of this part of the Highlands, and of a considerable distance round, must be great and rapid. New sources of industry and enterprise will be opened, new settlements will be established, new towns will rise, the fisheries will be increased, and Agriculture will wave, wherever the soil will admit, her golden harvest. The amount of monies already expended upon this stupendous undertaking, up to May, 1807, is 151,711*l.* It is probable that the expense of the whole, by the time it is completed, will exceed half a million. Unless many more hands can be procured, that event cannot be looked forward to for many years to come. With such undertakings as these, and such national advantages as must in consequence flow from their accomplishments, we may with regret, but not apprehension, contemplate the gigantic progress of French aggrandizement. The resources of our own country are inexhaustible; but many of them, though pointed to by the hand of

Nature, remain unnoticed or unknown. A wise policy will at last teach us to turn our eyes, as it were, inwards; to look at home, where we shall find enough remains to be done; and not to waste our strength and our energies upon distant countries, which court our alliance only in the hour of peril, or which, after having invited our assistance, coldly turn from us, and basely submit to the yoke of the foe by a feeble or faithless co-operation.

Thank Heaven that Britain, though great in commerce, is not solely commercial; and that there are thousands and tens of thousands who have never seen a ship, and who have no adequate conception of its construction or power. Our merchants, glittering as they are with well-acquired gold, are but as fringe upon "the robe of russet brown." Britain can boast of that best strength of all countries, a bold, manly, active, and numerous peasantry, and a spirit of agricultural enterprise, to which Nature yields without reluctance, and the soil unfolds its inmost treasures. That wise policy seems to dawn upon the Highlands of Scotland, and the time may not be far off when the hardy mountaineer, with patriotic attachment, unquenchable as the Grecian light, may find full and ample occupation in the dear and cherished spot of his nativity.

Inverness is celebrated in ancient story on account of its poetical schools (Schoil Bhairdeachd), in which the

Bards were trained, and used to perform certain exercises and examinations, when those who did not acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the proper judges were rejected, a circumstance which sometimes occurred after many years intense application. Unpremeditated subjects were frequently proposed at these examinations, and the Poet who was most successful obtained, as a reward, one cupfull of wine from the King's own hand, and another cupfull of gold: so attentive were the Scots in those early ages to the cultivation of letters.

This Highland capital must also have been long in a state of comparative refinement. The ancient Kings and their courts often visited the Highlands, and Inverness was frequently honoured with being the seat of the royal residence. The Kings of Scotland used to hold the Circuit Court in person, and the last of its Sovereigns who thus presided at this town was the unfortunate Queen Mary: the house in which she lodged on these occasions is still standing, though I saw nothing about it worthy of particular description. The Lords of Justiciary now hold the Circuit Court in the spring and autumn.

It is a matter of curious observation that the river Ness, like the lake from which it issues, never freezes, owing, as it is supposed, to its being strongly impregnated with sulphur; and that in the winter, if horses are led into it, with

icicles hanging round their fetlocks, produced by other waters, they will speedily dissolve. It has also been asserted that iron will not corrode in this river, nor in Loch Ness. The inhabitants along the lake have frequently seen, in severe frosts, a steam hovering over it, which is considered as a sulphureous exhalation; but this is equivocal, for it might as well be an ordinary as a sulphureous vapour, and, if the former, it is rendered visible by the keen purity of the air.

Inverness is also indebted for much of its interesting character to another extraordinary cause, viz. the ruins of a *vitrified fort*, which, as well as others of a similar nature, have hitherto baffled the learning and investigaion of the antiquary. This fort is in the form of a parallelogram, about eighty yards long, and thirty broad. Upon removing the turf and earth with which the ruins are covered, the stones appear to be firmly blended together by vitrified matter, resembling the scoriæ of an iron foundry, or the volcanic substances to be seen near the Giant's Causeway in Ireland: in many parts of the wall the stones are completely fused; in others the fusion has been partial, and they are sunk into the vitrified matter. There are several other vitrified forts in Scotland, generally situated upon the summits of hills. Some philosophers have supposed the

ruins to be the production of volcanos now extinguished, and real lava; but this theory seems to be effectually contravened by the form and regularity of these ruins.

Others maintain that these buildings were originally constructed of stone, and bound together with great beams and posts of timber, as Cæsar describes the ancient Gauls to have erected their fortifications, to resist the battering ram; and that when such fortresses were assailed by fire, the large quantities of timber contained in them produced sufficient heat to effect a partial fusion of the stones, and thus the vitrification was accomplished at the time of their demolition; but this theory is, to my mind, nearly as objectionable as the last, because the vitrification appears to be pretty nearly equal on all sides, and it is scarcely reasonable to suppose that the conflagration was so too, for the action of the wind alone would no doubt make it more intense on one side than on another.

For my own part, and I mention it with becoming diffidence, I am inclined to think the vitrification purely artificial, and coeval with the building. Mr. Williams, who has written upon the subject, conceives that such was the case, and that it was used by the builders, who were unacquainted with cement, to make their forts more impregnable.

He refers to the times of Fingal, and observes that the fort on Knockfarril is called by the common people Knock-farril-na-Fion, or Fingal's Seat, or Resting-Place. The above authority supposes that some great fires, which the ancient inhabitants of those countries have used either in running bog-ore for their iron utensils or in offering burnt sacrifices, would give them the first hint that a strong fire would vitrify stones and unite them together; which hint some genius might improve, and apply to the cementation of forts.

Mr. Williams conceives that two parallel walls or dykes were raised of earth or sods, and a space between equal to the thickness of the intended wall; that these parallel dykes formed the mould or groove into which they were to run their vitrified wall, which groove was supplied with sufficient fuel, on which they laid a proper quantity of the materials to be vitrified; that a hot fire would melt the stones, especially if they were of the breccia or pudding kind, and not large; and that the frame of earth would keep the materials, when in fusion, from running without the breadth of the intended wall: having thus laid the foundation, he supposes they added new fires and more materials, and raised their mould of earth by degrees, until they had formed the whole to the intended height, upon which the

earth was removed from both sides of the vitrified wall. In all the sections of the larger and smaller fragments of the vitrified ruins which he has inspected, he has never seen the appearance of a stone laid in any particular way.

This fusion might also have been effected in another way, by the use of kelp, or common sea-weed, which being intermingled in great abundance, or stratified with the stones of the building, as is done with bricks or lime-stone in a kiln, and large quantities being laid over the walls, the whole was set on fire, and that by this process the stones of the wall were softened, and cemented together by being partially vitrified. In confirmation of this last conjecture it has been remarked, that the kind of stones of which such forts are built is easily melted by the aid of the mineral alkali, which abounds in kelp or sea-weed; and it has also been observed, that all the forts of this description are in the neighbourhood of the sea-side, where kelp could be easily procured.

It is very likely that the vitrified ruins at Inverness are the remains of a fort raised by one of the two methods last mentioned, and that it was a royal residence; as a slight corroboration of this idea I beg to mention, that little more than a year since, as the workmen employed on

the Caledonian Canal were cutting through the side of the hill Torravain, near Inverness, and close to the old road leading to Loch Ness, they discovered a silver chain of double links, having thirty rings; the silver had a small alloy in it of brass or copper: a human skeleton was found near the chain, and a piece of the same metal, resembling bracelets, but too small to have been used as such: a silversmith purchased these antiquities for 10*l*. It is not unlikely, from the rude workmanship of the chain, that the skeleton might have belonged to a Pictish King. Adamnan, in his Life of Saint Columba, mentions that Brudius, King of the Picts, who was converted by the Saint to the Christian faith, had a palace at Inverness. The cutting of the Caledonian Canal may perhaps lead to a considerable illustration of the ancient history of that part of the country through which it passes; and much matter for learned investigation may be afforded to the antiquary as well as the geologist and the lover of mineralogy.

It is a singular circumstance that Dr. Johnson makes no mention of the vitrified forts.

As the Gaelic language is every where much spoken, and almost exclusively so amongst the peasantry in the Highlands, a few remarks upon it, imparted to me by a gentle-

man who is well acquainted with the language, may perhaps be not unpleasing to my readers.

The Gaelic language is as copious as the Greek, and as suitable to poetry as the modern Italian. It is a curious circumstance that it possesses a poetical dialect, as well as one confined to prose. It owes much of its beauty to its immense number of vowels and dipthongs; it is also barren in names for things of foreign or recent invention, although luxuriant in words to express every object of nature and every instrument of the common and universal arts. It was formerly the general language of Europe. The Welch and the Irish are dialects of the Gaelic. In the common language of Scotland, Irish and Erse are both used to denote the speech of the Highlanders, and are synonymous. John Major, in his Annals of Scotland, published in 1521, when enumerating the talents of King James, says that "he was a skilful musician; in the management of his voice in singing, inferior to no one; on the harp, he was another Orpheus; he excelled the *Irish, or the Highland Scots*, who are esteemed the best performers on that instrument." In Scotland it was long the common language of the country, the court, the bar, and the senate. So recently as in the reign of the illustrious Robert Bruce, the debates in the parliament held at Ardchattan, in Argyleshire, were carried on in this

language. It has a regular and established standard, and is now becoming very fashionable amongst the higher orders of the Scottish people, in many of whose houses I have seen schoolmasters instructing the elder and the younger branches of families in it. To my ear it sounded very soft and harmonious.

It is worthy of remark that this language has experienced such little change, that it would be difficult for the nicest critic to discover the difference in grammar or orthography between the language used by the natives of the remote regions of St. Kilda and that spoken by the best-taught and refined Gaelic scholar.

The following is a specimen of the Gaelic language:—

ORIGINAL.	LITERAL TRANSLATION.
Bu chian ar sgaoileadh o cheile	Far would disperse asunder,
Fea' gach sleibh air barra bhac;	Through the steep banks of each mountain,
Laochrai' chalma, churant Fhinn,	The strong adventurous band of Fingal,
'S am bogha gach tiom nan glaic.	With bows ready in their grasp.
'Nuair a dh'eiradh seilg an fheidh,	When the deer began to start,
Dh' fhuasgladhmaid na ceuda cu;	We let slip the hundreds of hounds;
S'ioma' damh, earb, agus adh	Many a hart, roe, and hind,
A thuiteadh, 'sa bhail gach iul	Fell as far as I could view.
Philleamaid le'r seilg tra-noa	We returned at noon with the spoils of the chase,
Gu Teamhra' cheolmhor nan teud;	To the musical Taura of strings,
Am bu lionmhor cruit is clar	Where numerous were cruits and harps,
'S ioma' Bard a sheinneadh sgeul	And many a Bard to sing a tale.
B'ioma' slige doll mun cuairt	Many a shell went round,
'S dana nua' ga luadh le cheil	And new songs were sung together,
A'caitheamh na feist's ann tur.	Whilst the feast was consuming in the tower.

Great merit is due to Dr. Johnson, to whose literary influence the Highlanders are indebted for a translation of the New Testament into the Erse language. From a want of judgment, some political members of the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge opposed this measure, conceiving that the encouragement of the Gaelic language had a tendency to perpetuate national distinctions, a misconception which the masterly pen of Johnson overpowered by force of reasoning. The same short-sighted policy prevented any publication of consequence from appearing in this language; but, by degrees, the Gaelic has provided employment for the press.

Before I quit this subject, I cannot help relating an interesting anecdote of the effect of this language upon a Highlander, in a distant region, communicated to me by the gallant Major Macquarrie, of the 42d. During the time that the navy and army destined against Egypt remained at Marmorice, in Natolia, in Asiatic Turkey, the Chaur Pacha came from Constantinople, as well to pay his respects as to afford every facility and assistance to the Admiral and Commander-in-Chief, in making arrangements necessary for the success of the expedition. When he came on board his Majesty's ship of war the Kent, to visit the Commander-in-Chief, Major Macquarrie was ordered to parade the grenadier company, to receive

and salute him. As this personage with his numerous retinue were entering the cabin of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, one of the attendants appeared studiously to place himself in the rear of the group, as if he wished to speak to the Highlander who stood to the right of the company, and close to the door which they were entering. As this Highlander, and the rest of his comrades, were fixed in observing the novel appearance of the figure, dress, and deportment, of their Asiatic visitors, the Turk I have mentioned touched the former on the shoulder, and addressed him in good Gaelic, to this effect:—"My lad, I am happy to see my countrymen once more, particularly those in the *philibeg*, which I have not seen for many years." If a comet had that moment passed before his eyes, or a thunderbolt had fallen at his feet, the poor fellow could not have been more petrified with astonishment, which had nearly loosened his musket from his hand. When the company came out, the Major endeavoured to prevail upon him to converse again, which he declined, except to assure him that he would return the next day alone, and with pleasure satisfy his curiosity. This gentleman proved to be of a very respectable family in Argyleshire, which he left when a boy, and was then a General Officer in the Turkish army.

The Erse language is so prevalent in the following

districts, that the clergy are required to perform Divine Service in it, viz. the shires of Sutherland, Ross, Cromarty, Inverness, and Argyle, the islands of Bute and Arran, and the parishes of Reay, Thurso, Halkirk, and Latheron, in Caithness, those of Nairn, Ardclach, and Calder, in Nairnshire, that of Duthel, in Elginshire, that of Kirkmichael, in Banffshire, those of Luss and Arrochar, in Dumbartonshire, and those of Balquhidder, Blair, and Strowan, Callendar, Comrie, Dull, Fortingall, Kenmore, Killin, Kirkmichael, Logierait, Mouline, and Weem, in Perthshire. There are also other parishes where the Gaelic language is used, but not by the majority of the inhabitants.

CHAP. XXI.

ROAD TO FORT AUGUSTUS — APPEARANCE OF LOCH NESS DESCRIBED—ENORMOUS STONES—ANECDOTES OF GENERAL WADE —GENERAL'S HUT—FALL OF FYERS—CAVES—FORT AUGUSTUS —MOISTURE OF CLIMATE—DRYING-HOUSES—LETTER FINDLEY —HIGHLAND HUT—THE ROOF-TREE—HIGHLAND PREJUDICE —BEAUTIFUL DUNGHILLS—HIGHLAND LIVING—ANECDOTE— FIR-SLIP CANDLES.

THE road from Inverness to Fort Augustus must be much improved since Dr. Johnson travelled this way, for he observes, "We were now to bid farewell to the luxury of travelling, and to enter a country, upon which perhaps no wheel has ever rolled." It is usual to hire post-chaises all the way to Oban, there being no intermediate stages where they can be engaged. I felt myself fortunate in procuring a good single-horse chaise and an excellent horse, which left me more at liberty to see the country. A recommendation to take a stock of wheat-bread with me gave me but an unfavourable impression of the agriculture of the country through which I was about to pass.

The ride to Dores, the first and a very short stage, is

extremely beautiful; in my way I passed by a Druid's temple, the form of which every one is familiar with. Near this place, upon the top of a hill, the vast watery expanse of Loch Ness, unbroken by islands, twenty-four miles long, and nearly straight from south-west to north-east, opened upon me with all its grandeur. Cultivated fields and a forest of pine formed a corresponding fore-ground; rocks and mountains—some huge, bare, and rugged, and gashed by wintry torrents—others adorned with woods of fir and birch, and all blending with perfect harmony of colouring, in which the heathy purple and a soft yellow seemed to have most diffusion—hung awfully over, or rose with a majestic sweep from the sides of the watery vista, hiding their sublime summits in the clouds. Over many a mile of water the eye beheld its surface, here gently agitated by a partial breeze, there as tranquil as a mirror, reflecting upon its bosom huge fragments of the adjoining crags or mountains; whilst, far in the west, this graceful and sublime scene faded in the sombre mist of distance, and in the darkness of cloud collected from the Atlantic. The prospect led my mind to reflect upon the bright and shaded vicissitudes of life, ending in the gloom of the grave.

From the heights about Inverness, the people, under a benign and unchanging sky, can, for weeks together, see the west involved in clouds, pouring down a deluge upon

the natives within their range below. Nature, as if to exhibit her peculiar fondness for this grand production of hers, has exempted the lake, as I have observed of its river, from one of the great operations of Winter; she has bestowed upon it the privilege of perpetual fluidity, in consequence of which, when other waters are frozen, it is the haunt of all sorts of aquatic birds.

The road winds along the lake, and is lined on each side with thick hazle and birch trees, resembling copses, called *shaws* by the Scottish Bard, and is at short distances channelled by the fury of winter torrents. The drive along the lake was truly delightful; the water rippled at the base of the mountains, on the side of which, with great skill and labour, the road was cut; and a tranquil grandeur pervaded the whole scene. The enormous stones which are raised at various intervals cannot fail to attract the notice of the traveller, and are but in a small degree less surprising in size and elevation than those which constitute the druidical fane. I have no doubt that the Druids, who were a learned body, were acquainted with the astonishing powers of the lever and the screw, and used them to increase the awful impression of supernatural agency upon the vulgar mind. Supernatural indeed must their energies have been, if, without such a mechanical aid, or the mode hereafter mentioned, they could have raised such stupendous masses of

stone as are in many places to be seen to this day. Perhaps the most extraordinary remains of this kind are mentioned to have been seen in Eastern Island, by Captain Cooke, who describes them as gigantic statues, of a grey stone, the same as the vast and ingeniously contrived platforms on which they rest are formed with:—"We could hardly conceive," says he, "how these islanders, wholly unacquainted with any mechanical power, could raise such stupendous figures, and afterwards place the large cylindric stones, before mentioned, upon their heads. The only method I can conceive is by raising the upper end by little and little, supporting it by stones as it is raised, and building about it until they got it erect; thus a sort of mount, or scaffolding, would be made, upon which they might roll the cylinder, and place it upon the head of the statue, and then the stones might be removed from about it. But if the stones are factitious, the statues might have been put together on the place, in their present position, and the cylinder put on by building a mount round them, as above mentioned. But, let them have been made and set up by this or any other method, they must have been a work of immense time, and sufficiently shew the ingenuity and perseverance of the islanders in the age in which they were built."—*Cooke's Voyages*, vol. i. p. 296.

Many of the stones thus perpendicularly elevated on the

road are seven and eight feet high. The moving of these stones astonished the natives at the time, and formed the subject of many little romantic and fabulous stories. This road is one of the several military ones, which have much conduced to the amelioration of Scotland. Before the roads were constructed, the Highlanders seldom held any intercourse with each other beyond the boundaries of their glens; and when General Wade, under whose inspection the military roads in the Highlands were made, first appeared in a carriage drawn by six horses, amongst these Alpine natives, they paid the greatest homage to the postilions and coachman, and wholly disregarded the General and his friends in the coach, whom they considered to be of no consequence, from their being so shut up in the carriage.

These roads have been principally formed in the summer season, by large detachments from Highland regiments lying in barracks, and in other quarters in the Highlands. On the working days each private had six pence extra, a corporal eight pence, and a serjeant one shilling: many other national objects might have been achieved in the same manner with great saving to the state, and an acceptable augmentation to the soldiers' pay, had the same policy been adopted in the other parts of the United Kingdom.

The solemn expanse of the lake, as I advanced towards

Boleskine, was a little relieved by the appearance of a victualling vessel, belonging, as I was informed, to Fort Augustus, from which it was bound to Inverness, for provisions, &c. for the garrison. Enchanted with my drive, I arrived at the inn usually known by the appellation of the General's Hut, so called from General Wade, who, when he commanded in the north, lived in a small temporary building upon the site of, or near to, the present inn. This inn is a solitary house, and stands upon a considerable eminence in one of the finest situations which the imagination can depict. From this spot the remains of the Castle of Urquhart, standing on an opposite point to the eastward, projecting into the lake, are seen. The Scots contemplate this ruin with patriotic devotion, on account of its being the last fortress that held out against the arms of Edward the First. From this spot, too, the lake, and all its majestic associates of rock and mountain, appear to the highest advantage, and strongly reminded me of the scenery in the neighbourhood of Stockholm, which I contemplated from a mountain in the Gulph of Bothnia. Near the inn is an unfinished lodge of the Honourable Archibald Frazer, a son of the celebrated Lord Lovat, known in the annals of 1745.

It is a pleasant circumstance for travellers in this solitary region to find a very civil innkeeper, who has one of the

prettiest women I saw in the Highlands for his wife. The house is a poor one, but the possessor of it promised to put it in excellent condition if he could procure a lease of it: he obtained from me a promise to write to his landlord to recommend his wishes, which I have done. If the application succeeds it will be very beneficial to future travellers. In this application I should have been joined by Lord Trafalgar, who was also at this house, and was equally pleased with the attentions of the worthy Highlander, had not a sudden and fatal indisposition deprived his country of a young nobleman who promised well to support, with the dignity of virtue, the well-earned honours of the illustrious Nelson.

It is a matter of considerable consequence to travellers in these parts that there should be a good inn upon this spot, and I hope that the liberty I have taken in recommending the wishes of my honest host will not be unavailing. After an excellent Highland dinner, I proceeded to the Fall of Phoyers, or Fyers, about a mile and a half off, in my way to Fort Augustus. After I had left the General's Hut about a quarter of a mile, the road curved through the mountains towards Strath Errick. This cataract is very lofty and grand, and is considered as the chief of the Caledonian falls. The thunder of its waters, which descend into a gloomy abyss of uncouth and rugged masses

of sable rock and cliffs, wooded with weeping birch, yew, holly, and hazel, is heard from the road; and, contemplated from the various directions in which the beholder is placed by the guide, above, midway, and below, it is truly grand and awful.

From a hillock, rendered for ever verdant by the mists of the cataract, called, I believe, " the Green Bank," the traveller has the finest view of the fall. Here, looking through the splendid prismatic arch of its own iris, the white foam of this Niagara of the north is seen, whilst many a graceful tree and scented herb are moistened by the soft showers of its spray, and the deep ravine below seems filled with steam. This wonderful cataract is formed by the confluence of several great mountain-streams, and the river of a loch in the neighbourhood. Burns has thus celebrated it:—

Among the heathy hills and ragged woods,
The roaring Fyers pours his mossy floods,
Till full he dashes on the rocky mounds,
Where thro' a shapeless breach his stream resounds.
As high in air the bursting torrents flow,
As deep recoiling surges foam below,
Prone down the rock the whitening sheet descends,
And viewless Echo's ear astonish'd rends.
Dim seen thro' rising mists and ceaseless show'rs,
The hoary cavern wide surrounding low'rs;
Still thro' the gap the struggling river toils,
And still below the horrid cauldron boils."

About a hundred yards higher up, there are several large caves, more interesting from their having been the secluded asylums of many of the unfortunate rebels, who found in them a protection from the slaughter which reddened the plains of Culloden with the blood of their countrymen; and adjoining there is a beautiful view from a bridge of one arch, resting upon two opposite rocks, through which the river flows, till it thunders down in the Cataract of Fyers.

Upon quitting this spot, the road turned from the lake through a defile of hills, bordered by trees and bushes, till I at length ascended into a region of mountains, jumbled together as by an earthquake, when all around me became dark, savage, barren, and desolate, and for several miles I neither heard the voice of man, beast, nor bird, nor saw the appearance of them, nor the means by which they could be nourished. It strongly brought to my recollection many parts of the mountainous drive from Killarney to Cork, in Ireland. An occasional view of two small lakes was all that I beheld to mitigate the horrors of this continued scene of desolation. It was evening when I arrived at Fort Augustus, where I found a tolerable inn, and the next morning paid my respects to the Lieutenant-Governor, Colonel Brodie, to whom I had a letter of recommendation, and with whom I breakfasted. This fort, which, seen from the heights

towards Loch Ness, resembles an old decayed palace, stands at the head of the lake on a small plain, and possesses little worthy of observation. Within, it is like the quadrangle of a college. It has four bastions, and twenty pieces of cannon, six-pounders each; and is garrisoned by one company of soldiers. The barracks are able to accommodate four hundred men. As a place of defence it is only necessary to mention that it was easily taken by the raw rebels of 1746, who considering it, as it is fair to suppose, untenable, soon deserted it, after demolishing what they could. In Erse this fort is called Kill Chuimin, or the burial-place of the Cummins. It is little more than a mere *Uncle Toby* fortification. I was more pleased with seeing the mountain-ash which grew about it, and the Governor's little garden, than the whole fortress.

Within a few miles of this fort are the celebrated parallel roads in Glen Roy, which, as the learned in antiquity suppose, were constructed for the accommodation of the ancient Scottish Kings.

There are also in the district of Glenelg, opposite to the Isle of Sky, the ruins of some ancient circular buildings, resembling glass-houses, by some supposed to be Danish forts, but which have long afforded controversial matter for antiquaries.

The view of the lake, from this fort, must be very beautiful on a fine day, with which I was not favoured, and which is somewhat of a rarity in this weeping climate. From a register of the weather at this place, kept for one year, ending May, 1807, it appears that, out of three hundred and sixty-five days, there were only one hundred and five fair. Some wag has said that the climate of the west was composed of nine months of winter, and three of bad weather.

At the Governor's breakfast-table I observed that the wheaten bread was mouldy, owing, as I was informed, to the fort being dependent upon Inverness for its regular supplies of this article, and I found that I had been well advised in laying in a store of it, particularly as the oaten cake disagreed with me. Here it will be necessary for the traveller to lay in provision for Letter Findley. This part of the county of Inverness-shire is so frequently exposed to rain, that the peasants seldom depend upon saving their corn in the open air; *drying-houses* are therefore used by such as can afford them, in which the sheaves are singly hung upon a peg until they are dry enough to make room for others. The people are restricted to the most degenerated species of oats, with the hairy-bearded husk, a light small kind of beer, and potatoes.

From Fort Augustus Dr. Johnson and Mr. Boswell turned

off to Glensheals, in their way to the Island of Sky, which is the nearest route.

Upon quitting it for Fort William I left the river Oich to my right, and, after crossing a bridge, I entered a long and dreary defile of barren mountains, whose sides bore ample testimony to the violence of the winter torrents, and in the road the carriage-wheel was seldom out of water. A few ash and hazle trees occasionally gladdened the eye. About three miles from the Fort, Loch Oich, and its river flowing from it, appeared, with a large range of verdant mountains on either side, occasionally well clothed with mountain-ash, firs, elder, and birch. As I passed along the rocky shores of this lake, I was much pleased with the contrast of the modern house and old castle of Glengarry, and the roads behind, belonging to Macdonnell of Glengarry. They possessed the united attraction of beauty and rarity. In every direction were water-falls, at this time rather slenderly supplied.

As I approached Loch Lochy the rains began to descend, and at the head of the lake my eye could only travel midway up the stupendous mountains between which it is expanded. I passed near Laggan, deserving of notice for its having been the residence, and its surrounding scenery the subject of the pen, of Mrs. Grant, a lady who has

deservedly raised herself to literary eminence by her very interesting " Letters from the Mountains," and several elegant effusions of her Muse.

Letter Findley is a solitary inn, as dirty and miserable as any venta in Spain; and worse, with regard to cleanliness and accommodation, than any other in Scotland that I met with. The children belonging to the house appeared to be, as it is tenderly called, *smitten*, or devoured, with a cutaneous disease, called, from a false impression of its being almost peculiar to Scotland, the Caledonian Cremona, or Scottish Fiddle. This disorder is principally engendered by habits of filth; and, as far as I had opportunities of observing, and of collecting information from medical gentlemen upon the subject, has been very much reduced of late years amongst the lower orders.

I had before seen specimens of Highland hamlets, and in my way to this place I passed by another of them. At a distance they resemble a number of piles of turf. In general they are built in glens and straths, or upon the side of a lake, or near a river or stream, adjoining to which there is a little arable land. This near Letter Findley is close to the shores of the lake, all the huts of which appear to be constructed after the same style of rude architecture. The walls

are built of turf or stones, according to the nature of the adjoining soil, and raised about six feet high, on the top of which a roof of branches of trees is constructed; this is covered with squares of turf, of about six inches thick, closely pressed together, and put on fresh from its parent moor, with the grass or heath upon it, which afterwards continues to grow, and renders it difficult for a traveller, unless he be very sharp-sighted, to distinguish at a little distance the hut from the moor. I have seen many of these buildings in high vegetation, and in that respect they reminded me of the same description of buildings in Sweden.

I was obliged to stoop on entering the door of these sylvan abodes, and within saw a cabin which brought to my recollection that of Robinson Crusoe: upon the ground, about the centre, was the fire, the smoke of which escaped through a hole in the top of the roof, but not without having first blackened every part of it within, till the rafters looked like charcoal; and, unless the covering should be weather-proof, the rain must fall within as black as ink-drops. In others there was a little fire-place of iron bars, with a hob on either side, and above a crank, for holding the meikle pot. The only furniture I saw were some boxes, stools, pails, an iron pot, some bowls and spoons of wood, and also a cupboard, or shelves, for holding provisions.

A tolerable hut is divided into three parts: a butt, which is the kitchen; a benn, an inner room; and a byar, where the cattle are housed. Frequently the partition of the chambers is effected by an old blanket, or a piece of sail-cloth. In the kitchen, and frequently in the inner room, there are cupboard-beds for the family; or, what is more frequent, when the fire on the ground is extinguished, they put their bed of heath and blankets upon the spot where it has burned, on account of the ground being dry. A true farmer loves to sleep near the byar, that he may hear his cattle eat. These patriarchal dwellings frequently tremble, and sometimes fall, before the fury of the tempest. I was told that very far north, when a Highland peasant entertains his friends with a cheerful glass of whisky, it is usual, as a compliment to the host, to drink to his *roof-tree*, alluding to the principal beam, which by its weight enables the roof to resist the pressure of a mountain squall, and which forms the great protection of the family within from its fury.

A house with an upper story is called, by way of pre-eminence, a *lofted hut*. I was informed by some gentlemen, who had long resided in the Highlands, that in some of these miserable habitations, upon their return from grouse-shooting, they have been frequently offered a glass of excellent white or red wine, as well as whisky. Another

Highland gentleman informed me that these mountaineers are so attached to their peat or mud hovels, that, although he had erected for some of his tenants neat stone cottages, they continued to prefer their former dwellings, the workmanship of their own hands.

The Highland peasants, like the Irish, are very much attached to their dunghills, which are constructed close to their doors. To such a pitch of fondness is this carried, that upon an order being issued that no one should raise their dunghill in the streets of Callendar, one old lady is said to have expressed her joy that she was not deprived of hers by this clean and cruel decree, for she had made it in a back room.

The peat-stack is generally the near neighbour of the dunghill: by this arrangement the most disgusting objects are strangely kept in full view. Here, as in Ireland, the dog forms a part of the family. The children romp with him; and, in general, he is a great favourite.

The mode of living amongst the Highland peasantry corresponds with the simplicity of their abodes. Their principal food is oaten or barley cakes. Oatmeal is used in various shapes, under the names of brochan, stirabout, sowins, &c. Sometimes the oaten cake is made of grannaded

meal, that is, of meal separated from the husks, and roasted by the fire, instead of being threshed and kiln-dried.

Milk also yields a principal source of subsistence. They milk not only cows, but goats and ewes. It has been said, but I doubt the fact, that oatmeal is sometimes supped *dry*, undressed, or baked, by putting a handful in the mouth, and washing it down with water. I was told that the very poor Highlanders boil the blood of their cattle, when killed, with a quantity of salt, and that, when it becomes cold and solid, they cut it in pieces, and use it for food. At Inverness I saw some poor people in the act of carrying blood in bowls, and, upon my asking what they intended to do with it, they said, "To make puddings with it." The Highlanders have had wisdom sufficient to see and feel the value of cultivating the potatoe, a vegetable which Nature seems to offer as the bread-fruit of every country. The memory of Sir Walter Raleigh deserves more from his country by having brought the potatoe from America than if he had conquered Guiana. I saw few Highland huts which had not an adjoining little potatoe-plot, and I think the Highland potatoe little inferior to the Irish. A very favourite Highland dish, of the higher class, is composed of sour cream, sugar, whisky, curds, fresh milk, and flummery, a paste produced from a pre-

paration of oats steeped in water. The affections of the peasant are easily engaged by humouring his prejudices and conforming to his habits. It is recorded, in the romantic accounts of the escapes of Prince Charles Edward, that when he effected his retreat to the Hebridean Island of Rasay, in consequence of almost all the houses having been burnt by the soldiers under the command of the Duke of Cumberland, he was obliged to repair to a little hut, recently built by some shepherds, where a fire was kindled, and a bed of heath prepared. When the provisions which had been brought with him from Kingsburgh were opened, he was presented with wheat-bread and brandy, which he declined, declaring that he would not taste them whilst *oat-bread* and *whisky* lasted, "for these," said he, "are my own country's bread and drink."—These expressions greatly increased the affection of the Highlanders for him.

Although society is so widely scattered in the Highlands that the natives have not frequent opportunities of assembling on convivial occasions, yet with social improvement the use of whisky has increased amazingly, although the duty upon it has increased too. It appears that the duty on spirits distilled in Scotland, exclusive of the duty on malt and malt liquor, imported spirits and wine, did not produce in the year 1777 the sum of 8,000*l.*, whereas in 1806 it produced 250,000*l.*

In some of the remote parts of the Highlands, a candle would produce as much sensation as a Chinese lantern. On account of the difficulty and expense of procuring tallow, they substitute dried slips of the birch and fir-tree, the stumps of which they find in the peat-bogs when they cut for fuel. The care of attending to these rude tapers, which burn quickly and brightly, is confided to those of a family who are too aged or too young to perform any very serviceable labour. This substitute was not unknown to me. In the course of my rambles in other countries I have met with the *fir-slip candle*. It is frequently used in mountainous regions. On the borders of Wetteravia, a country not far from Franckfort on the Maine, rises a chain of mountains called Der Vogelsberg, the produce of which is chiefly potatoes. On the summit of this mountain the snow defies the summer sun. In this elevated region also the lower class of peasantry, in their long winter evenings, use, instead of candle, slips of fir, a tree which, as well as the oak, flourishes there in great abundance. These slips are put in the middle of the room, round which the girls of the family assemble to spin, whilst their lovers stand behind, to claim the privilege of a kiss, if their mistresses make an error in slipping the knot.

CHAP. XXII.

EXTENT OF HIGHLANDS — FARMING IMPROVEMENTS — RURAL ARRANGEMENTS — RUDE GEAR — FORT WILLIAM — A HIGHLAND SHOWER, WHAT — FINE WEATHER UNWHOLESOME — BEN NEVIS—CATTLE FAIRS—A CHURCH-INN—THE CONA OF OSSIAN—HORRIBLE MASSACRE—MACDONALD OF GLENCOE—APPIN-HOUSE—OBAN.

IN my progress thus far amongst the Western Highlands, I had sufficient opportunity of observing their eminent pretensions to be ranked amongst the sublime and beautiful of nature. The Highlands may be said to commence from Dumbarton, near the mouth of the Clyde, and comprise the mountainous parts of Scotland from thence to the north and north-west, including the Hebrides. Their length is about two hundred miles, and their breadth varies from fifty to one hundred, yet they have no ascertained boundary coinciding with the limits of any civil jurisdiction. It is worthy of observation that the ridges of the mountains which characterize this part of the country run nearly west and east, and that they exhibit evidences highly corroborative of the deluge, which, it is fair to suppose, poured in from the south-west to the north-east, and produced those

vast and astonishing inequalities which are visible in this direction upon the summits of these and of every other known mountain of the earth. The shepherds in the Highlands constantly observe, that, whilst the south-west side of the hill is sterile, the north-east side is rich in soil and pasture, and exhibits traces of alluvial earth.

The summits of the mountains have seldom any other covering than moss, upon a bed of stones and gravel; and where these have been washed away by storms, the bare rock appears. The sides of these mountains, which are generally clad with heath, and other hardy northern plants, can never become arable land: it is only in vales and sheltered situations that tillage can be tried with success; in these spots barley, oats, potatoes, flax, pease, rye, turnips, and some foreign grasses, are cultivated, but not in a sufficient degree to render the importation of grain and meal unnecessary.

The butter in the Highlands is much improved: it used to be full of hairs, and it was a common saying, that, if the butter had no hairs in it, the cow that gave the milk would not thrive. The butter of Scotland is in general, I think, inferior to that of England, and perhaps a consciousness of this circumstance led to the introduction of honey, marmalades, and preserves, upon the Scottish

breakfast-tables. The Highland honey is in high estimation, and is indebted for its peculiarly delicious flavour to the bloom of the heath. The Lowlanders call themselves the Land of Cakes, whilst the Highlanders proudly boast of inhabiting a land of milk and honey.

The domestic distribution of labour in the little Highland farms is singularly interesting. The lesser boys take charge of the weaned lambs; the stronger attend the goats to the rocks and perilous precipices, upon which they love to browse: the young girls are employed at the distaff; the young men attend the cattle upon the mountains, whilst their father cultivates his little patch of ground, repairs his hut, of which he is the designer and builder, and upon which occasion the knife, the axe, and the augur, are his simple materials; in this respect, however, he is better provided than the Russian boor, who works with more skill, neatness, and ingenuity, with only his axe. At evening fall the children return home, the bearers of fish which they have caught in some neighbouring stream, and of alder-bark, and buds of heath and moss, with which their mother may stain her home-spun plaid. Amongst the Highlanders, both young and old, the season of "*summer flitting*," when they remove for the summer to the mountains with their flocks, is always hailed with a rapturous welcome. At this time they live in the mountains in shealings, or little huts constructed

for the purpose, and sleep upon beds of heath, leading a life perfectly pastoral until the autumn is advanced, when they return to their glens.

The materials which they adapt to useful purposes are frequently very simple. In different parts of the Highlands, as in the south-west parts of Ireland, straw is found a convenient substitute for ropes. The horse-collar and crupper are frequently made of straw. Sticks of birch twisted together are also frequently used for halters and harness, and are called woodies.

The dimensions of Lochs Oich and Lochy I have before given. Upon bidding adieu to Letter Findley, which I should have done with great pleasure had not the magnificent grandeur of the prodigious mountains opposite afforded an uncommonly rich banquet to the eye, the road lay through a long chain of craggy mountains, affording little more variety than what was furnished by a miserable straggling hut or two, until my eye caught with pleasure a lofty bridge built over the river Spean, under the direction of General Wade, to whom the traveller in the Highlands finds himself continually under obligation, and to whose memory he would gladly contribute his mite to raise a monument. Through the arches of this bridge the Spean rushes with great rapidity to the head of Loch Lochy. In the winter

season, this river, in consequence of its being supplied by so many mountain torrents, exhibits, as I was informed, a tremendous descent of waters. As I approached Fort William, I passed on my left near the base of Ben Nevis, whose stupendous summits I had long contemplated, soaring above his associate mountains with an elevation and aspect truly sublime; and on my right the ruins of the ancient Castle of Inverlochy, which possess nothing about them worthy of particular notice. The entrance to the town of Maryborough, adjoining to the fort, has little to gratify the eye; and Loch Eil, and the surrounding mountain scenery, is more grand than beautiful.

Fort William is situate on Lochaber, bordering on the Western Ocean, yet within the shire of Inverness. It was built in the reign of King William and Queen Mary, being called after the name of the King, and was originally designed as a check upon the chief of the Camerons, a clan addicted to plunder and rebellion. The town was erected into a borough in honour of Queen Mary: it is a long street of indifferent houses, stuccoed white, and is chiefly inhabited by fishermen, who carry on a considerable fishery in the lake. The inn is rather destitute of accommodation. Nothing can be shabbier, as a fortification, than Fort William; it has neither strength, space, nor neatness. It could scarcely stand a siege of two days

against a company of raw, but resolute, volunteers: the barracks are composed of wood, and, having already suffered by time, promise at no distant day to be blown away as touch-wood. It is garrisoned by a serjeant's guard. The Government-house is very small and incommodious, but rendered comfortable by its neatness, and delightful by the reception which I experienced from the officer residing in it, and his lady. The principal reason, I was informed, for continuing this military station, (if it may be dignified with that appellation,) is to preserve a check upon the smugglers in this part of the country. If it be worth the expense of preserving, Government would do right to deal out repair with a prompt and lavish hand, otherwise they will soon have to regret its fall: but within, hospitality found room to spread a plentiful table, and elegance to display the most agreeable manners. The farce of shutting the gate at the hour usual in fortified towns is still preserved iu this travesty of a fortification.

The shattered remains of the flag-staff, which, when erected, was a very thick mast, bore ample testimony to the terrible storms of wind which visit this place, particularly near the autumnal equinox, when they prevail with such fury, that vessels are frequently blown from their moorings, between Loch Lochy and the sea, a little way from Fort William. The Caledonian Canal commences in this direction, and is

carried over aqueducts, which are necessary to give a free passage to the waters of this mountainous country. The persons concerned in this noble undertaking have found that, in stormy seasons, the occasional torrents that fall loaded with stones are so formidable, that they have been obliged to enlarge the span of the arches, by which means sufficient passages are opened for carts and cattle under the canal, and the necessity, which before existed, of building bridges for that purpose, will be prevented.

I was now in the *region of rain*, which descended with little intermission, during my stay at Maryborough, with a copiousness which I have not often beheld. Rain, which continues in this neighbourhood for nine or ten weeks together, is called by the natives by the gentle name of *a shower*. Such almost eternal moisture, no doubt, preserves the verdure of the pasture, which otherwise, so thinly scattered as it is on a face of rock, would be soon burnt up by the sun. A Highland gentleman, who went over to Paris during the late momentary peace, met a friend of his there, who the year before had been upon a visit to him at his Highland chateau near Fort William: after the first usual interchange had passed, the Highlander was asked by his friend whether the shower which was falling when he left him was yet over; so accustomed are the natives of these parts of the Western Highlands, and the Hebrideans, to be under a

weeping climate, that in all human probability a long series of fair weather would produce sickness and despondency.

Having no hopes, by a protracted stay, of being able to see the magnificent view which in a clear day must lie before the beholder upon the top of Ben Nevis, I contented myself with walking some way up its sides. This mightiest of the mountains in Great Britain is four thousand three hundred and seventy feet above the level of the sea. From the top, I am informed, in favourable weather, the eye can travel from the German to the Atlantic Ocean, can command many a Hebridean Isle, and extend almost to the coast of Ireland. When I first saw it, the atmosphere was tolerably clear, and it then appeared to be as ugly in shape as it is huge in size. In some of its chasms in its northern side, the whiteness of eternal snows singularly contrasted with its vast masses of black and grey rocks.

Ben Nevis exhibits a very visible and extraordinary appearance of the triumphs of time over the most stupendous objects. It is now evidently part only of a much greater mountain, that seems to have included the present one, and two adjoining ones of lesser height, presenting now between them too immense gullies, from whence it is conjectured that the alluvial deposition has probably formed

most of the flat land about Fort William: this perhaps may account for its uncouth appearance. A great part of this vast mountain is fine porphyry, in which the tint of the rose is blended with yellow and white: in some parts it is green, with a tinge of red and brown.

Cattle fairs, or rather meetings, are held at Maryborough twice a year: these meetings, inspired by Highland integrity, are conducted with great liberality, and confidence in the honour of the contracting parties: nearly all the great Highland farmers are gentlemen of good education and polished manners. They sell their cattle to English buyers, who purchase without seeing the beasts, from a knowledge they have of the stock bred upon the farm of the owner: they are sold upon the honour of the Scottish proprietor at so much a head, and the purchaser sends for them. The cattle are purchased lean, on account of the length of the winters and the shortness of the summers. Many parts of the Highland pasture-land will keep thousands of sheep, though incapable of fattening any. I was informed also that the Highland farmers never part with their lambs, and never kill them but for their own tables. On the shores of Loch Ness the ancient Highland breed of sheep are frequently found without any mixture. This breed is of a race very different from that of the southern provinces: their frame is small, and apparently delicate;

their tails are short and tapering, and thinly covered with strong silvery hairs; their eyes are prominent. Sheep and goats are generally reared together; the latter follow the former, and eat up thyme, pennyroyal, and other aromatic herbs, which the former will not touch.

I was not sorry to leave Maryborough, the neighbourhood of which Mrs. Grant, in her Letters from the Mountains, has very justly described:—"It is a sea-port without being animated; it is a village without the air of peace and simplicity; it is military without being either gay or bold-looking; it is country without being rural; it is Highland without being picturesque or romantic; it has plains without verdure, hills without woods, mountains without majesty, and a sky without a Sun—at least his beams appear so seldom, that I wonder the Lochabrians are not dazzled into idolatry when he walks in his brightness."

The road from Fort William for a long distance towards Appin is very good, and the country very picturesque. I passed by several huts, more miserable I think than any I had yet seen, which, from the smoke issuing through the roof, and their squalid appearance, resembled so many reeking dunghills. As I was waiting for the ferry-boat of Balahulis, on the opposite shore of Loch Leven, a large group of Highland peasants was assembled at the ferry-

house, in waiting for their pastor, it being Sunday; so that the house united two rather opposite characters, that of inn and chapel: this is by no means an uncommon case in the Highlands, where the population of a parish is so widely scattered: in fine weather, under these circumstances, Divine Worship is performed in the open air. Sometimes those ardent devotees are seen crossing shallow rivers upon stilts, bearing their parents on their backs to the church on the opposite side.

The lake is about a quarter of a mile across, and a more grand and beautiful assemblage of objects than those which are presented to the eye in all directions, in crossing this ferry, I never beheld. A verbal description, however vivid, would not fail to be a very imperfect picture. Soon after I arrived at Balahulis, the rains, which had ceased for a short time, just to unveil to me this romantic and enchanting scenery, descended with redoubled copiousness before I could secure my retreat from a ramble along the shores of the Leven, amongst some of the beautiful glens, which here every where invite the notice of the traveller. After waiting with Job-like patience to ascertain if the weather would permit me to visit a place in this neighbourhood, much celebrated for its awful gloom and horror, called Glencoe, I relinquished the design, and proceeded to Appin-house. I was much vexed at the disappointment, for the

glen was the birth-place of Ossian. The river Coe, at its mouth, is the *Cona* of Ossian :—

"Their sound was like a thousand streams that meet in Cona's Vale, when, after a stormy night, they turn their dark eddies between the pale light of the morning."—FINGAL.

Cona is also frequently celebrated in other parts of his poems. This frightful glen was the theatre of a massacre not often paralleled, and the recital of which cannot fail to make the mind shudder with horror. It appears that many of the sturdy and high-spirited chieftains, from an attachment to the fallen fortunes of the Stuarts, submitted to the Act of Settlement in favour of King William with reluctance. The Earl of Breadalbane undertook to reconcile the malcontents to this great political change; but, meeting with difficulties in his way, he resolved to be revenged upon those who embarrassed his mission, and particularly selected Macdonald of Glencoe, against whom he had a private pique, as an object devoted to destruction. Accordingly he represented him at court as an incorrigible rebel. He told the King that Macdonald had got his Majesty's proclamation, which offered an indemnity to all who had been in arms against him, upon submission, and taking the oaths of allegiance, before the expiration of a year, but threatened with military execution those who should hold out after the first of December. Macdonald refused to take

the oaths, alleging that the Government had nothing to apprehend from his doing so, as he always intended to keep his opinions to himself. At last, however, overpowered by the persuasion of his family and friends, on the last day of the month he repaired to Fort William, and requested of Colonel Hill, the then Governor, to tender the oath to him, which the Governor declined, on account of his not being a magistrate; upon which Macdonald set off for Inverary. He travelled with such swiftness, although the snow lay deep upon the ground, that he arrived there within one day after the period of indemnity had expired. Sir John Campbell, sheriff of the county, in consideration of his disappointment at Fort William, administered the oaths to him and his adherents, and they returned to Glencoe, full of confidence in the protection of Government. In consequence of Breadalbane's representations, the King, with the most unfeeling composure, signed an order for putting about two hundred persons out of the protection of the proclamation; and a warrant to this effect was issued to the Master of Stair, Secretary of State for Scotland, who sent orders to Livingstone, the Commander-in-Chief, to put the unhappy inhabitants of Glencoe to the sword, that the rest of the refractory clans might be impressed with terror by the example.

In consequence of an order from Major Duncannon,

Captain Campbell, of Glenlyon, marched at the head of his company into the valley of Glencoe, early in the month of February, 1691, on pretence of levying the arrears of the land-tax and hearth-money. Macdonald demanded of the officer the object of such a visit, who answered, upon his honour, that he meant no injury either to him or to his people. In consequence of this declaration, Campbell and his soldiers were kindly received, and treated in the most hospitable manner for fifteen days. At length the horrible hour of unsuspected slaughter approached. The Lord and Lady of Glencoe, and Campbell and some of his officers, spent the day, in the evening playing at cards together, and parted early, with mutual expressions of esteem. In the course of the evening young Macdonald observed that the guards were doubled; and, from other appearances amongst the soldiers, suspected treachery, and communicated his suspicions to his father, whose confidence in the honour of Campbell made him revolt at the idea. The young man continued firm in his opinion, and at nightfall went, accompanied by his brother, amongst the soldiers, to make further observations: upon approaching a guard, they overheard a sentinel express his dislike to the meditated business of blood to his comrade, observing, that he should have no objection to fight the Macdonalds in the field fairly, but that his soul revolted at butchering them in cold blood. "However," added he, "our officers are answerable for the treachery." Upon hearing this the young men hastened

back with the intelligence to their father; but the massacre had commenced. Before they reached their house, the vollies of death, and the shrieks of despair, rang through the glen, and, being unarmed, they preserved their lives by flight. The ferocious soldiery entered Macdonald's chamber, and, upon his starting up, they shot him through the head, and he fell dead in the arms of his astonished wife, who died distracted with horror the ensuing day. The huts of the tenants and dependants were surrounded, and every one within was put to death. Thirty-eight persons were butchered in their beds. The design was to murder all under seventy years of age, amounting to about two hundred persons; but some detachments, happily for the survivors, did not arrive in time to secure the passes, and, in consequence, one hundred and sixty escaped.

When these savage assassins had completed the massacre, they set fire to the houses, seized all the property they could find, and drove the cattle away. The night was one of the bitterest of the winter; and, when the day broke upon this horrible scene, women, who, with their infants, had fled naked from the murderers, were found frozen to death with their children, under rocks and hedges, at some distance from the glen.

Upon a representation of this barbarous outrage to the King, he endeavoured to throw the responsibility from his

own head upon those who induced him to sign the sanguinary order; but, as he never punished the perpetrators of the massacre with becoming vigour, it remains an indelible blot upon his character.

In this valley, I am told, there is a very extraordinary appearance, produced by the superinduced stratum of rock on the south side, which has not yet been elucidated. There is also a fine blue slate quarry, along the banks of Loch Leven, in the road to Glencoe. Under a sky of tears, I reached the hospitable roof of Appin-house, a seat belonging to the Marquis of Thomond, and occupied by Colonel Robertson Macdonald, and his amiable lady and family, who had recently returned from Ceylon. The situation of the house is elevated, and commands a charming view of that great arm of the sea called Loch Linnhe, the ruins of a castle, which nearly cover the island upon which they stand, the verdant island of Lismore, and the opposite and celebrated mountains of Merven. The plantations upon this estate are very extensive: upon the shores of the lake, a little way from the house, are some vast globular rocks, well worthy of notice. Appin is a miserable-looking place, but the country, as I proceeded to Shean Ferry, is well wooded, and very beautiful. At this ferry I crossed Loch Creran; and, about four miles afterwards, Loch Etive, at Connell Ferry, which, on account

of some opposing currents, is attended with some difficulty, and occasional danger. Near the road to Connell Ferry is the site of the celebrated city of Beregonium, once the capital of Scotland, and built by King Fergus II. It is supposed that this city perished in a volcanic eruption, great quantities of scoriæ of different kinds being found in and adjoining to the spot.

From the ferry to Oban, about four miles, the country, which is rocky, is marked by volcanic appearances, which constantly attracted my notice until I reached the flourishing and beautiful little town of Oban. This town, which is concealed from the Western Ocean by the island of Kerrara, is finely situated for trade and commerce. It has a bay, which is of a semicircular form, from twelve to twenty fathoms deep, is capacious enough to hold five hundred sail of merchantmen, and has two entries, one from the south, and the other from the north; it is well protected against the westerly winds, and the fury of the Atlantic, by Mull, and other islands before it. Only a few years since, this town presented nothing but two or three houses, amongst which was a store-room built by a trading company of Renfrew. The local advantages soon afterwards became so obvious, that the Duke of Argyle, and other persons interested, exerted themselves to promote its prosperity; but a respectable and enterprising indi-

vidual, of the name of Stevenson, and his sons, to one of whom I had a letter of introduction, and who settled here in 1778, have most contributed, by their spirited undertakings in various branches of traffic, to raise it to its present consequence. They principally supply the Hebrides in their vicinity with merchandise; they carry on a large coasting trade; deal in meal, kelp, cattle, hides, &c.; and carry on the business of ship-building. There is no place upon the coast of Scotland better adapted, on account of its excellent harbour and road, than Oban, for a great sea-port and fishing station.

In times like the present, when we are contending with a most subtle and formidable enemy, this place is peculiarly worthy of the notice of Government, as affording an admirable situation for a royal dock and arsenal. There is a ready communication open with Glasgow, by the Clyde, for the conveyance of stores; Loch Linnhe is navigable to Fort William, which has an easy access with Fort Augustus and Fort George, where a considerable body of troops might be lodged, or barracks might be erected in the neighbourhood of Oban. Ships of war and transports might sail for the West Indies or America, from the west coast of Scotland, with any wind, at all times of the year; and, if the constitution and the garrulous curiosity of the country would admit of it, this coast would

be well suited for fitting out expeditions which should be really secret.

Oban was much enlivened by the expectation of the Duke of Argyle, who, I found on my arrival, was with a party of friends visiting some of the Hebrides. In the neighbourhood of Oban there are some beautiful walks, particularly one to Dunolly-castle, along the bay of Oban. This castle was once the residence of the ancient Scottish Sovereigns; and an aquatic excursion to the Castle of Dunstaffanage, near Connell Ferry, will amply remunerate the trouble of reaching it. The remains of this castle stand on a bold rocky promontory, jutting into Loch Etive. This castle was founded by Ewin, a Pictish Monarch, contemporary with Julius Cæsar. It is said that, when visitors unexpectedly arrive at this castle, and there are not sufficient provisions within for their entertainment, an hospitable telegraph, namely, a *table-cloth*, is hoisted upon a pole on the battlements, which is a signal for certain tenants of the proprietor to bring supplies of fresh salmon, or any other fish which may be in season.

At Oban I engaged a vessel to carry me over to Mull.

CHAP. XXIII.

THE HIGHLAND CHARACTER ELUCIDATED — HIGHLAND SENSIBILITY — HIGHLAND HAUGHTINESS — CRAFT — FIDELITY — SHREWDNESS — HIGHLANDER'S NOTION OF AN ENGLISHMAN — HIGHLAND HONESTY — ANECDOTE — HIGHLAND HOSPITALITY — COURTESY — AFFECTION — AFFECTING ANECDOTE — HIGHLAND HARDIHOOD — CAUSES OF HIGHLAND CIVILIZATION — SCOTTISH LOYALTY — HIGHLAND OATHS — HIGHLAND INNS.

DURING my stay at Oban, the mountaineers whom I had just left frequently afforded me matter for reflection, and I now submit to my readers the result of my observations, and the information which I derived with regard to their national character. Although, from all that I could learn, it appears that the distinguishing features of the Highland character are vanishing away, and blending with that of their southern and eastern neighbours, yet much still remains to arrest the attention and gratify the curiosity of the tourist. In the early history of the Highlanders a most romantic sensibility was one feature in their national character. The following undoubted anecdote, amongst many others that might be produced, will illustrate the remark:—When the

Macleans of Loch Buy possessed in sovereignty the south side of the island of Mull, the chase afforded them both food and recreation. On a day when a great hunt was intended to be given by the chief of the clan, he ordered one of his attendants, named Gore, or Godfrey, to stand at a certain pass, and not to permit a stag to escape in that direction, on peril of losing his life. In the chase some deer forced their way by him, notwithstanding every precaution, and the haughty and enraged chief, instead of putting him to death, convened his clan, and ignominiously chastised him on the summit of a peak; pierced to the heart by a sense of the disgrace, the oppressed Highlander immediately afterwards seized the child of the chief from the arms of its nurse, who was standing amongst the clan, and leaped from the peak with the infant in his grasp, with whom he alighted in safety upon a rock below. The distracted father looked down with terror upon his child, and implored the Highlander to restore it, offering him forgiveness, rewards, and honours, for his compliance. Gore declared that he would not make up his mind until the chief had endured the same disgraceful chastisement which had been inflicted upon him. The chief submitted, and was scourged within his view, and then again implored to have his child; upon which Gore, with a ghastly grin and shout of exultation, precipitated himself with the infant from the rock where he stood to a dreadful depth below, and both were instantly destroyed.

The authority which these chieftains once possessed is almost incredible; and as it is the nature of power to corrupt, it frequently imparted an uncommon degree of sternness and severity to the character of him who possessed it. Many of the chiefs, in distant periods, were regarded with superstitious veneration, and were as absolute as any of the Princes of the East, and frequently displayed a power not a little terrible to those who called it into action. It is related, that soon after the accession of Queen Ann, when Prince George of Denmark, her husband, was Lord High Admiral of England, some Scots gentlemen represented to him that Scotland could furnish the navy with as good timber for masts, and other naval uses, as Sweden or Norway, and at more reasonable prices; upon which two surveyors were dispatched to ascertain the truth of the representation. At Edinburgh they procured a letter of introduction to a great chieftain, in a remote part of the Highlands, to forward their commission. Upon their arrival at his house they announced their object, and produced the warrant and instructions from his Royal Highness. After deliberately perusing them, the chieftain observed that he knew *nothing of such a person.* The surveyors informed him that he was the husband of Queen Ann; upon which he replied, "*I also know nothing of her;* but there came hither, some time ago, such as you, from Ireland, as spies upon the country, and we hear they have made their jests

upon us amongst the Irish. Now you shall have one hour to give a better account of yourselves than you have yet given; and, if you fail, I will have you hanged upon that tree," pointing to one adjoining; a menace which his attendants seemed perfectly disposed to execute. In this dilemma the chieftain left them, without having seen the letter of introduction from their friend at Edinburgh, which the surveyors thought would not be noticed after the treatment which the royal mandate had experienced. However, after they had paced up and down the garden for some time, seeing death at every turn before them, they conceived they might as well produce the letter of introduction, which, after some difficulty, as the hour was on the point of expiration, they discovered, and presented to the haughty Laird, who, after perusing it, observed, "Why did you not give me this at first? If you had not produced it, I would have hanged you both immediately." Upon which he courteously led them into his house, gave them refreshment, and granted them permission to make a survey of his woods the next morning.

The very ancient Highlanders were distinguished for many noble virtues as long as they had Sovereigns of their own. In the year 845, Kenneth M'Alpine, having subdued the Pictish kingdom, transferred thither the seat of Government, and the country in consequence fell into anarchy

and confusion, and hence arose all those evils which disgraced it: quarrels became hereditary; and plunder the order of the day. Of this the following anecdotes will afford a tolerable picture:—When one of the M'Donalds of Lochaber came down to visit a chief, called Culloden, who resided near Inverness, he admired the number and beauty of his cattle, upon which Culloden expressed his apprehensions that he should not have pasture sufficient for them during the winter, when M'Donald, who sharply eyed the cattle, told him, with much apparent courtesy, that he could accommodate him, as his pasture was abundant; accordingly they agreed for so much a head, and the cattle was driven to the lands. About two months afterwards a herdsman of M'Donald's arrived at Culloden's, and told him, with a sorrowful face, "that his chief was in great trouble on account of Culloden's cattle having been all stolen and driven away." Culloden, it appears, shrewdly understood the real meaning of this, and, without betraying his feelings, ordered that the herdsman should be treated with the greatest hospitality. After a day or two the fellow offered to take his departure, when Culloden asked him if he had been treated to his heart's content, and, without saying a word about the cattle, gave him money, and dismissed him. When the herdsman returned he went to his chief and said, "The man must have his cattle again." M'Donald was astonished, remonstrated, and refused to comply; the

man threatened him with exposure, upon which he was obliged to submit; the cattle were restored, with a polite message from M'Donald that he rejoiced in having been able to overtake and rescue the cattle, which he had returned.

In the same rude period a spirit for plunder entitled the felonious hero to the admiration of the female sex. It is related that a Highland woman, when begging alms of a lady, was asked how many husbands she had, to which she replied "*Three;*" and being asked if they had been kind to her, she said the two first were *honest* men, and very careful of their families, for *they both died for the law*, and were hanged for theft; but as for the last, she said, "he was a filthy peast—he died at hame, like an auld dog, on a puckle o' straw."

Of the fidelity of the ancient as well as the modern Highlanders many impressive instances could be produced. A friend of mine favoured me with the following anecdote, which, I think, places that exalted quality in a fine point of view:—In the battle of Glenshiels, in the rebellion of 1719, a gentleman fought at the head of a company of Highlanders, raised from his father's clan, and fell dangerously wounded in the thigh by a party of rebel Highlanders, who continued firing upon him, after he was down, from the

declivity of a mountain: conceiving that his death was inevitable, he ordered a faithful servant, who was fighting by his side, to consult his safety, and retire, as he could not protect him against so many, and requested him to report to his father that he had not disgraced his clan; upon which the poor fellow burst into tears, and told his master that he never would leave him in that condition, and immediately threw himself over his body, and covered him from the fire of the enemy, in which position he received several wounds, until the rebels were dislodged by a party which came up to the relief of the gallant sufferers.

The present Highlanders appear to unite sentiment to serious habit; they are inquisitive, thoughtful, and intelligent, and they have a sort of melancholy sensibility, tempered with much natural courtesy, which renders them highly interesting. Their noble form and pensive mind finely correspond with the wild and sublime scenery in which they move. This may perhaps have aided in forming that part of their character. In the course of my Highland rambles I had frequent intercourse with the natives who spoke English, and I was always surprised to find the great intellectual curiosity which the Highlanders displayed in their inquiries after our own manners and customs: they have frequently walked by the side of my carriage, or of

my horse, for miles together, during which I had many a shrewd interrogatory propounded to me.

In talking of the English, they always spoke of us as a separate people. An old Highlander once told an English gentleman that the expedition to Ferrol would certainly fail, as there were so many *foreigners* engaged in it. "Foreigners!" exclaimed the gentleman, "what do you mean?" "Why, there are only *Englishers* and *Irishers* employed," replied the Scotchman.

I was also much struck with the natural ease, perfectly free from vulgarity, as well as the social turn, of these people. I saw an unaffected dignity of deportment, which I should think splendour could not dazzle into that mean sheepishness and conscious inferiority frequently observable in the peasantry of other countries. A Highland farmer presents to me the figure of a Roman one. The Highlander seems to measure man by a noble standard. When you look at his face and form, you will naturally say, "Nothing sordid or selfish can be cherished there." Lord Moira, in an affecting speech upon the interests of Ireland, eloquently observed, "That that man walked safely who walked uprightly, as he who moved in the Grotto del Cano, by carrying himself erect, avoided the deadly atmosphere which clung to the earth below, and destroyed the

baser animal that crawled." Thus it is with the Highlander; in the midst of poverty and privation, such as the south never exhibits, he is, by a powerful moral sense, more than by reflection and education, preserved from mean and unworthy actions.

Although in a rude period the Highlanders had no very correct notions of the sanctity of property, many are the instances which might be adduced of Highland integrity, which grew with the growth of civilization. The following little anecdote will shew how widely the uprightness of the Highlander is respected:—Whilst Corsica was in our possession, the butler who had the care of the Governor's plate, upon fetes, and great public occasions, used to request that some of the *men without breeches*, meaning some soldiers of a Scottish regiment on service in the island, might have the charge of it during the entertainments.

In battle the Highlanders have repeatedly covered themselves with glory in various parts of the world. They are temperate; and society is so thinly and widely dispersed, that they have seldom an opportunity of assembling to indulge in gratifications that are violent to sobriety. Their hospitality, as well as that of the Scottish peasants in general, is a subject of merited admiration: they have but little to offer, but what they have they cheerfully

give; it is generally an Arcadian banquet of milk and cream, and oaten cake. This noble quality their exquisite Poet, Burns, has celebrated with epigrammatic point:—

> "When Death's dark stream I ferry o'er,
> (A time that surely shall come,)
> In Heav'n itself I'll ask no more
> Than just a Highland welcome."

I was much pleased to find that hospitality in the Highlands had assumed an appearance of high civilization. Amongst the Highland gentlemen I was never pressed to drink more than was perfectly agreeable to me, although formerly drinking was carried to such an excess, that in the house of a chieftain two servants were always in waiting to take up those who dropped from their seats through intoxication, when they were conveyed to their beds in a chair constructed for the purpose with poles.

It is a curious circumstance, that, notwithstanding the natural external gravity, or rather peevishness, of the Highlander, his spirit is alive to the sounds of joy when festive merriment invites. They are extremely fond of diversions of all sorts, of dancing, and of music, at the sound of which their countenance begins to brighten. In this respect they resemble the Russians. Almost every piece of social labour is alleviated by singing: on the

banks of rivers the women employed in washing sing as they rub their linen in the passing stream; the boatmen, as they row, keep time with their oars to some lively or pensive strain; and the reapers sing as they cut down the corn.

It is well known that the Highlanders are remarkably delicate towards their women; and that, in matrimonial life, their fidelity and attachment cannot be surpassed. A custom exists amongst the Highland ladies, which strongly reminded me of the same class of females in France. When a stranger has been visiting a family, and is about to take leave of his hospitable friends, a young lady of the Highlands will offer her hand at parting, and sometimes present her cheek, glistening with a tear of unconcealed regret. Such conduct is completely consistent with delicacy; it flows from unaffected innocence; it means nothing but kindness, and the libertine could not mistake it. I was fortunate in experiencing this artless and cordial attention more than once.

The Highlanders are remarkable for their filial affection and obedience. An undutiful son or daughter, in the Highlands, is ranked amongst those who blemish human nature. To show to what extremity this submission to parental will is occasionally carried, I lay before my reader the

following affecting instance, which occurred a few years since:—An English lady, who was travelling in a solitary part of the Highlands, remarked an old woman, dressed in black, sitting upon a stone, by the road side, and weeping. The lady directed her guide to go to her, and inquire who she was; he accordingly asked her for some account of herself. After a conversation which lasted some time, he informed the lady that the poor woman was very unhappy, and had good cause to be so, for she had an only son, who enlisted in the army against her will, though she suppressed her feelings, that he might follow his inclinations; that soon afterwards he obtained a furlough, and came back to her, when, from excess of fondness, she would not allow him to leave her, though the time appointed for his return had expired. His commanding-officer sent a message to him, ordering him to return; he still remained with his mother: another and peremptory order followed; it was alike disregarded. At length a file of soldiers was dispatched to the cottage, to seize him as a deserter. When, with anguish in his heart, he was preparing to submit, his mother called out, "What, Sandy, will you spare your blood upon your enemies?" The youth, wrought up almost to phrenzy by the horror of his situation and this appeal, seized his musket, and discharged it at his comrades, upon which they fired, and shot him instantly dead. When the story was finished, the lady went up to console this vene-

rable object of her sympathy, upon which she just raised her grey head, and sobbed, " My beautiful, my brave!" an exclamation which she had borrowed from the play of *Douglas*, and which so closely applied to her feelings.

After such a trait it is scarcely necessary to observe, that to extend support and comfort to the declining age of a parent is a duty the most sacred, the observance of which forms a peculiar feature in the character of a Scotchman. When a Highland youth emigrates or enlists, a portion of the savings of his prosperity or pay is always allotted to his parents, if he has any, or to some poor relative: he never turns his back upon his poor relations, when, with young Norval, he might exclaim :—

" Once on the cold and winter-shaded side
Of a bleak hill, mischance had rooted me,
Never to thrive, child of another soil!
Transplanted now to the gay sunny vale,
Like the green thorn of May, my fortune flowers."

The hardihood of the Highlander is almost proverbial. He attributes his health to the keenness of the air and the want of doctors. The Highlanders are accustomed to derive comfort from what would, in all probability, occasion death to other men. It is well known that, in cold dry windy weather, when these mountaineers are obliged to

sleep amongst the hills to attend their cattle, they soak their plaid in a burne or brook, in which having rolled themselves, they select a spot of heath upon the leeward side of some hill for their bed, where they are kept quite warm by the wet, which prevents the wind from penetrating the stuff. The following whimsical characteristic anecdote is recorded to have happened in the Highlands many years since:—A hardy chieftain, when stretching himself out to sleep by the side of a hill, after a long day's hunt, observed that his son, a young man of twenty, had collected a quantity of *snow* for a pillow, on which he was preparing to lay his head, when his sturdy father severely reproached him, and would not suffer him to enjoy such a luxury.

A general disregard of the luxuries of the table is to be enumerated as peculiar to Highland manners. From the Highland gentleman, when enjoying his sporting pleasures, a bad dinner draws forth no expressions of regret, and a good one none of admiration. The voluntary sufferance of privation seems to constitute one of the evidences of manhood. But, though capable of this sort of forbearance whenever it becomes necessary, he is not disposed to try the philosophy of his visitors or family in the same manner. The Highland table is always plenteously, and frequently elegantly, covered. The Scotch, as I have before remarked, have a passion for trying their fortunes in other countries,

and, when they have succeeded, are desirous of purchasing property near the place of their nativity, and spending the remainder of their days there, in consequence of which foreign habits and luxuries are inevitably introduced, and the voluptuousness of Asia is not unfrequently seen in these remote regions of the north.

Society in the Highlands has for many years experienced a gradual amelioration. In a distant period the soldiers of Cromwell taught many of the useful arts of life to the East and North Highlands, amongst whom they were garrisoned; and during those turbulent times, when a romantic attachment to an expatriated family, deservedly expelled from the throne, brought war and desolation in its train, the progress of civilization was accelerated by the intercourse and communion which followed between the conquerors and the natives of the country which they overrun, and also by the quantity of money which was circulated by means of the troops.

In other instances good has resulted out of evil. About the year 1746, the Border Country, on the verge of the Low Country, became infested by a lawless band of depredators, chiefly from Lochaber and the remoter parts of the Highlands, whose fortunes had been ruined by the events of 1745. They frequently made incursions upon the inha-

bitants of the Low Country, and retired in safety with their booty into the wild and almost inaccessible retreats within the Border. This system of plunder and forced contribution was carried on for some time, in open defiance of the military stationed at a small distance from their haunts. At length the bold, active, and enterprising exertions of Mr. Nicol Graham, of Gartmore, and other gentlemen, in conjunction with the operations of General Churchill, the then Commander-in-Chief in Scotland, and the law-officers of the crown, succeeded in bringing these desperadoes to subjection. This event was of essential service to the country, as it led the Government into a more intimate acquaintance with that part of Scotland. The judicious and salutary manner in which the rents of the forfeited estates were applied in the improvement of the country; the Act of 1748, which destroyed the despotic power of clanship, and abolished the feudal jurisdictions, by which the vassal is restored to the rights and immunities enjoyed by his fellow-subjects in the south, and is no longer forced to follow his chieftain to a ferocious contest, to which he was instigated neither by personal provocation nor immediate or remote advantage; the blessings of a regular police; the construction of the military roads through the Highlands, opening to easy and uninterrupted intercourse vast districts that were once inaccessible to each other; and the benign labours of the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge;

the exaggerated accounts of Dr. Johnson, which, flowing from the proud and unbending prejudice of a high authority, attracted the attention of the world to the condition of the north; the emigration of so many families, which alarmed the Government, and taught the rich to attend more to the comfortable employment of the poor at home; the great periodical visits of the gay and the opulent from the south, in pursuit of game or pleasure; the valuable elucidation of the coasts; the careful soundings of the channels; an indefatigable attention to the fisheries; the increased demand for kelp; the various societies which have made the amelioration of the condition of the Highlanders the object of their noble zeal;—all these, and other and minor circumstances, in conjunction with the moral and national qualities of the people, have effected a change in their local character, which, I am informed, is truly astonishing to those who have the power of comparing what the Highlanders are, with what they were a few years since.

The Highlanders, after the rebellion, for a long time were prevented, by a severe, but perhaps necessary, provision of the Legislature, from wearing arms. This painful badge of disloyalty has been wisely removed by an Act to repeal the Statute which imposed the deprivation. Indeed his Majesty has not now to learn, that he could not place arms in the hands of any of his subjects more disposed to use them with intre-

pidity in the cause of loyalty. For the Scotch it may be said, that

"Their swords are a thousand, their bosoms but one."

It is generally believed that the Highlanders still preserve some vestiges of juridical forms peculiar to themselves, particularly with regard to the administration of an oath. Before the Union, a Highlander, upon his being sworn, did not kiss the Bible; but, holding up his right hand, repeated, "By God himself, and as I shall answer to God at the great day, I shall speak the truth. If I do not, may I never thrive while I live; may I go to hell, and be damned, when I die! May my land neither bear grass nor corn; may my wife and bairns never prosper! May my cows, calves, sheep, and lambs, all perish!" &c.

A Highlander, offering to appear as a witness against a delinquent, previously to his examination before a magistrate, was tendered the Low-Country oath, which, in consequence of his showing an eagerness to take, induced the magistrate to suspect that he was a Highlander, and suborned, upon which he changed his proceeding, and tendered him the Highland oath, when the man objected to swear at all, observing, that "Thar is a hautle o' difference betwixt blawing on a buke, and dam'ing one's saul." This parti-

cular form has long been abolished, and only one form of oath now obtains in the courts of law in Scotland, viz. "I swear by Almighty God, and as I shall answer to God at the great day of judgment, I will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, as far as I know and shall be asked in this cause."

Formerly, when one clan went out to fight against another, a tune was played, which imported "To conquer or die," and all those who rallied were considered to be under a pledge equal to an oath.

With respect to the trades in the Highlands being hereditary by parental coercion, as far as I could learn no such coercion exists; and the same remark will apply with regard to religion. The trade of the father is frequently and generally followed by one of his sons, if he has more than one, as is often the case in England, from the influence of example and early direction.

The inns in the Highlands are much improved since Dr. Johnson's tour amongst them. Boswell mentions that they scarcely ever had bed-sheets. I was at many of these resting-places, and almost always had them, though not disposed at all times to enter them.

CHAP. XXIV.

HIGHLAND DRESS, ANCIENT AND MODERN—PIETY OF ANCIENT CHIEFTAINS—DRY CLOTHES IN WET WEATHER—A FOOLISH LAW REPEALED—HIGHLAND GENTLEMEN'S HOUSES—ANECDOTE—ESTABLISHMENT OF ANCIENT CHIEFTAINS—ANECDOTE OF A HAUNCHMAN—SECOND SIGHT—DR. JOHNSON—WITCHES—ANIMAL MAGNETISM—DIVINE REVELATION—GLAMOUR, OR BAD SIGHT—SUPERSTITION—A VILLAGE SEER—HIGHLAND EMIGRATION—OLD HIGHLAND FARMERS—HIGHLAND GRAZING—RECRUITING SERVICE IN THE HIGHLANDS—HIGHLANDS ADAPTED TO MANUFACTURES.

THE Highland dress is very manly and graceful, though it appears to be declining; when I expected to have seen it entire, I found it yielding, as it were piecemeal, to the habiliments of the south. Few gentlemen, except when they are sporting or farming, wear the kilt; the belted plaid is scarcely ever worn. The Scottish bonnet is also disappearing. It appears by history that the hat, and not the blue bonnet, used formerly to be the fashionable covering of the heads of the men. In an ancient ballad, commemorating the loss of several Scottish nobles in the Forth, in an expedition

on which they were sent out in stormy weather, under Sir Patrick Spence, there is this verse :—

" O our Scots nobles wer richt laith
To weet their cork-heil'd schoone;
But lang owre a' the play wer play'd
Their *hats* they swam aboone."

About eighty years since, a Highland gentleman was seen without shoes, stockings, or breeches, in a short coat with a skirt, that just peeped below it, and scarcely concealed what decency seldom exposes in any country, although in his family he had daughters arrived at womanhood; at present, in the same rank of life, the greatest decorum of dress is observed. The undress of the gentlemen is generally a short coat of tartan, and trowsers of the same stuff. The females of respectability dress precisely as our ladies do. The dress of the common people of both sexes, in most parts of the Highlands, is made of a thin coarse woollen cloth, which they make and die of indigo colour blue. The men generally wear waistcoats and sometimes trowsers of the same stuff, or cloth, and beaver hats. They also frequently have a plaid in folds, part girt round the waist, to form a sort of short petticoat to reach half-way down the thighs, and the rest thrown over the shoulder, and fastened below the neck. Brogues and short tartan stockings are also much used. The very poor wear what are called mire-

pipes, or stockings without feet, called also, in some parts of Scotland, huggers.

The women generally wear a petticoat and a sort of bedgown of the same stuff, and a cursche, or white mob cap, or a handkerchief thrown over the head, and tied under the chin. The married women wear lappits, and the unmarried have their hair turned up, and fastened with a comb; they wear no caps. The Highland dress of a chieftain is now seldom presented to the eye, unless in the islands on a Sunday, or in a family picture.

The most ancient dress of a Highland chief consisted of helmet, coat of mail, shield, and broad sword, named in the Gaelic language thus, viz. :—

1. Gloachadah, ... Helmet;
2. Terradhairm, ... Coat of Mail;
3. Sheadh,agus, ... Shield; and
4. Claibhmore, ... Broad Sword.

The more recent dress was called Claibh-agus, Breachkan onâeîle, which implies the complete suit of tartan dress, including the belted plaid, pheilybeg or kelt, bonnet, dirk (complete, with knives and forks), a pair of pistols, purse, broad sword, &c. &c. Upon every occasion, in times of old, when a chief summoned his vassals and clan to the

hall of his castle, he uniformly girt himself in his war-dress, and, so far as oral tradition can be depended upon, the Highland chiefs uniformly dressed themselves in their complete Highland garb when they went to church. This they made a point of doing from a sense of duty; and they often vied with each other in making great donations for the building of churches, abbeys, monasteries, &c. An instance of this we find recorded, *where it appears* that Reginald, Lord (commonly called King) of the Isles, about the latter end of the eleventh century, not only lavished great sums of money in building churches and monasteries within his own territories, but extended his munificence to the Monastery of Paisley, to which he gave the lands of Caskiming, Arran, &c. This powerful chieftain was contemporary with William the Lion, and his son, King Alexander the Second, but acknowledged no allegiance to either of these Princes. Donald, Lord, or King, of the Isles, son of Reginald, and grandson of Somerlede, King of the Isles and Thane of Argyll, also imitated the liberality of his family in making donations to the church, especially to Paisley, Kilkerran, now Campbelton, the Monastery of Saddle, in Kinlyre, &c. &c. This custom was regularly handed down in the family of Macdonald until within a very late period. Thus the Monastery of Carinish, in Uist, was built by Reginald of Clanranald, at a great expense. Many of his successors followed his example,

and made several donations, especially to the Cathedral of Iona, or Icolmkill.

To return to the plaid. The colours of the plaid harmonise so well with the russet and heathy colours of the Highland mountains, that they much facilitate the Highlander in the destruction of game.

It cannot fail to strike a stranger with surprise that a dress so thin, and easily penetrated by rain and wind, should be used in a region which is seldom visited with either dry or warm weather. Here, as in the north of Europe, the human frame becomes indurated by exposure to all weathers, and clothing but an inferior and secondary consideration. The Norwegian suffers the snow to settle on his naked breast, and freeze there; and the Russian generally trusts to his beard to save his throat from the cold, in a season and a climate in which, if water be thrown up into the air, it falls down in ice. So enured to, and so careless of, rain are the Highlanders, that it is related, that when an Englishman was walking with a Highland peasant, a violent storm overtook them, upon which the former buttoned his coat, and fastened the plaid which he had borrowed round him, whilst the latter stripped himself naked, and seated himself upon his tartan dress, which he had formed into a bundle, and, in this manner, very

contentedly waited until the rain was over, when he laughed at his companion on account of his clothes being wet, whilst his own, by this hardy contrivance, were dry.

After the Rebellion, a barbarous and mistaken policy induced the English Government to pass a law, rendering it highly penal in a Highlander to be seen in the dress of his forefathers. This decree redoubled his attachment to it; and although he endured the humiliating prohibition with manly resignation, he felt his spirits revive when a great chieftain of his own country, the present Duke of Montrose, procured the repeal of a law at once severe and senseless.

Feminine delicacy has been sufficiently accustomed, even in the south, to contemplate the kilt, or short petticoat, of the Highlander, without a shock, and I am therefore heartily glad that he is restored to his semi-nakedness, by which he is enabled to spring over his mountains with perfect ease, and is no longer restrained within the rigid bounds of southern breeches. Some whimsical lines in honour of the noble orator who so ably and successfully pleaded the cause of the kilt appeared about the period of this august restoration; I believe they are in that witty collection of poems called the Rolliad :—

> "Each breeze that blows upon those brawny parts
> Shall wake thy lov'd remembrance in their hearts;
> And whilst they freshen by the northern blast,
> So long thy honour, name, and praise, shall last."

The domestic arrangements of the Highland gentlemen must have been materially changed for the better since the period when Johnson and Boswell wandered through their country. Boswell mentions that, in a house which they visited, the bell in the room where the guests were carousing over the punch-bowl having been broken, a smart lad lay on a table in the corner of a room, ready to spring up, and bring the kettle whenever it was wanted. I do not think that at present such an arrangement would be made. The attendance was civilized and good in every respectable house which I entered, although there were no bells, a circumstance not very unusual in the Highlands, and other parts of Scotland. Boswell's story reminds me of one something similar, which occurred a short time before I was in Ireland. In the north of that country, a gentleman of considerable fortune, but not over attentive to the comforts of his house, had invited a party of friends to dine with him at his shooting-box. In the morning he was informed that one of the leaves of the only dinner-table in the house was broken. Instead of sending for a carpenter, and getting it repaired, he hit upon a project for making it perform its duty without that trouble. After the guests had been seated some time, and were enjoying their dinner, a little wild Irish boy sprung from under the table, exclaiming, "By Jasus, I can bear it no longer!" and immediately the luckless leaf, and all the dishes committed to its support, fell with a terrible crash on the floor.

The ancient chieftains must have exhibited much barbarous splendour in their household establishments. Whenever a chief undertook a journey, he used to be attended by the following officers and servants :—

The Hanchman.
Bard.
Piper.
Piper's Gilly, who carried the pipe.
Bladier; the spokesman.
Gillimore; broad-sword bearer.
Gilly-casflue; to carry the chieftain, when on foot, over the fords.
Gilly-comstraine; leader of his horse in rough and dangerous ways.
Gilly-trushanarich; baggage-man.

The *hanchman*, who preceded the rest, was the secretary, or confidential humble friend, of the chief: his name is derived from its having been the principal part of his office to stand near the haunch of his master, when he gave entertainments, to attend to the conversation, and ascertain if any thing was uttered that could be offensive to him. Many years since, at one of these banquets, an officer of this description, conceiving that an English officer, whose language he did not understand, from some look or gesture was uttering expressions disrespectful to his master, without the slightest previous representation of his suspicions snapped his pistol at him, which luckily missed fire, and enabled him by an explanation to understand that what he mistook for disrespect was mere energy of manner. Of

this establishment, I believe, no part remains but the piper.

In various parts of the Highlands, I endeavoured by frequent inquiry to ascertain whether any old crazy or crafty man or woman possessed the superhuman faculty of *second sight*, and whether mental imbecility continued to prolong the folly of its delusion. Had not Dr. Johnson given an indirect sanction to the existence of this prophetic power, I could scarcely have preserved my gravity as I proceeded in my investigation. The genius and the judgment of that profound moralist raised him far above the highest, whilst his weaknesses and prejudices connected him with the very humblest, of his own species. That his mind was under the gloomy influence of superstition no one can doubt. He avowed that he believed in the *evidence* of second sight, and therefore he must have believed in second sight itself, although he has endeavoured to soften the fact by the expression. Considering how much we are all under the influence of external causes, it cannot be a subject of surprise that the savage solitary glen, the magnifying mist, the gloom of treeless mountains, the deep cavern, the rugged rock, the roar of winds and waters, and every other awful and sublime attribute of Highland scenery, should cast a shade of horror over the mind of the ignorant native, and some-

times render him the dupe of melancholy and extravagant fancies. In such a region I can easily conceive that gloomy visionaries would not be wanting, who, with the Wizard of Campbell, might pretend

> " 'Tis the sunset of life gives me mystical lore,
> " And coming events cast their *shadows before ;*"

and that, with the assistance of dreams, disturbed by indigestion or by dejection of spirits, they might think they had heard portentous death-shrieks, had seen funerals in the clouds, and counted the number of the bearers ; or, with less emotion, prognosticated the colour of a new servant's livery.

Others might make a display of this pretended power, without this disordered imagination, for the artful purpose of advancing some sinister object, or from the vanity of being considered the seer of the village. This marvellous faculty, it seems, was not confined to adults. The story runs, that even children, and horses and cows, enjoyed its dignity, and imparted its illuminations. That the Great Disposer of all things should delegate the power of prescience to the low and the illiterate, and deny it to the enlightened, that it should irradiate the gloom of desolation, but never shine in the scenes of refinement and civilization, are extraordinary preferences which the learned Doctor has not attempted to ex-

pound and reconcile. That pretensions to second sight are the fruits of imposture, or of a morbid melancholy, is tolerably plain, when it is considered that so far back as 1720 this pretended faculty began to lose its ground, and that it has continued to retreat as civilization and social intercourse have advanced, until it has at length been nearly driven out of all its fastnesses. We contemplate the weakness of the learned tourist, and of the untutored mountaineer with different emotions: the latter has apologies of residence and mind; and let it be remembered, that, in the south, the 17th century had far advanced before the reign of witchcraft was over, during which it was thoroughly believed, amongst other equally ridiculous characteristics of a witch, that she could not weep more than three tears, and these only out of the left eye; and that this execrable infatuation had before that period been countenanced and solemnly defended by a King and a Philosopher, by James I. and by Bacon. The witches, thank Heaven! for fancy never formed them with attraction, have for some time mounted their broomsticks, and disappeared; and no sensible person is now to be found who believes that they ever existed. Yet the season of infatuation scarcely seems to be over. All and more than the folly of sorcery and second sight was but a few years since revived with renovated vigour in the pretended efficacy of animal magnetism. I remember, when a boy, listening with astonishment to the marvellous

accounts with which one of its principal professors was indulging a large party. He gravely told us, that, by an inspiring movement of the hand, he could enable any one distinctly to describe the colours of four kittens concealed in a bag; that he could impregnate ashes with medicinal virtue; and that he could raise the hand of any one from the table, without touching it: upon which I resolved to put his last privilege to the test, and accordingly extended my hand upon the table before us, and defied his power; when he made the following singular reply:—"I cannot, at present, raise your hand; I am interdicted from doing it, for some months, by the prince of the power of air." This man occupied a respectable rank in life, and in all other instances was highly enlightened.—To return to the subject of second sight; I more than once excited a look of contempt for making any inquiry about it; and I do not believe that there is a Scotchman, in the least degree enlightened, who now believes that such a faculty ever existed in his country.

A pretension to Divine Revelation, and of course a credulity in it amongst some, will be found to have existed by the following whimsical anecdote:—"Previously to the secession of those people known by the appellation of Seceders from the Kirk of Scotland, because its tenets and discipline did not appear to them sufficiently rigid,

one Erskine, a clergyman, who took a very active part in promoting that secession, held a living in the county of Fife. On the one hand was a parish called Auchtertool, the emoluments of which were small; and on the other a parish where they were uncommonly large. A vacancy having happened in the more valuable living, Erskine applied for it with success. Having always professed an extraordinary degree of sanctity, and a contempt for the good things of this world, he was charged with inconsistency by a poor woman of his parish, known by the familiar appellation of Tibby. But, as he had been a mighty pretender to Divine Revelations, and supernatural *calls* and visions, he excused himself by saying that the Lord had given him a *call* to go to the more profitable parish. "That may be, Sir," replied Tibby, "but gin the Lord had gi'en ye a call to gang to Auchtertool, ye would ne'er let out on ye heard him."

Second sight and glamour, that is, good and bad sight, seemed to have perished one after the other. Glamour means a magic power of making an object appear to the eye different from its reality. The high and the low, the brave and the timid, at one time believed in this superhuman privilege. That many instances of superstitious credulity are still to be met with in the Highlands is not doubted; amongst others, a piece of mountain-ash is thought

by many of the common people of Scotland to be a charm against certain disorders, and mothers frequently fold a bit of it in the gowns of their children. A confidence more worthy of an intellectual mind is displayed in the reverence which is paid to the wisdom of age.

In every hamlet, some aged peasant, distinguished for his experience and superior knowledge of the seasons and of rural economy, is invested, by tacit consent, with high authority, and is, by way of pre-eminence, called "*n' Dunah, or the Man.*"

In the first feelings of his humanity, a traveller in the Western Highlands, as he wanders along the shores of vast lakes, at the foot of mighty mountains, whose summits are covered with mist, and whose sides are every where gashed by the winter torrent, or in the gloom of glens, will feel a secret awe amid the frequent silence of the scene. A total stranger to its history might at first be induced to exclaim "What war, or what contagion, has depopulated these solitudes?" Such were my earliest emotions in travelling through these regions, where many a mile have I traversed without seeing a human being, or hearing any other sounds than those of the solitary shepherd's horn, or of distant waterfalls. The subject led me into a train of reflection and inquiry, the result of which satisfied me that the sadness and

severity with which I contemplated such a spectacle were greatly misplaced.

The appearance which the natives of the Western Highlands present, gloomy as it is, will be found to be the natural consequence of the progress of improvement. Population has ever been thinly scattered in these mountainous districts; and Nature seems to have formed them more with a view to the pasturage of cattle than for the operations of the mere cultivators of the earth. When a wise police had broken down the feudal sovereignty with which the Highland chieftain had been invested for ages, the proprietors of land began to turn their attention to the improvement of their estates; and as the proportion of land capable of tillage was very small, the country became divided into vast grazing farms. As the Highland Lords felt their authority decline at home; many of them naturally travelled abroad, and mingled with the people of the south; estates were let at advanced rents, and, in letting, a few wealthy tenants who could afford to give them the largest rents, and offered the best security for their regular payment, were preferred to a number of poor ones, whose payments would have been sometimes precarious, frequently difficult, and always additionally expensive in the collection. A great number of peasants found themselves suddenly obliged either to change their habits, which had been almost pastoral,

for those of manufacture, or to emigrate to another country, where they conceived they could continue their accustomed modes of existence. Thousands braved the miseries and perils of a long voyage, and sought retreats in the wilds of America. The Legislature became alarmed at this spirit of emigration, which in time began to cure itself. As many found that they had nearly perished in the wilderness before they could enter the land flowing with milk and honey; and, notwithstanding many seductive accounts of Transatlantic prosperity were regularly transmitted to those who remained in their native vales, for the purpose of inducing them to join those who had departed, some narratives not very flattering to their hopes and fortunes were received, which operated to damp the ardour of emigration. Notwithstanding those drains, it is a fact at once curious and important, which has been accurately ascertained by legislative and statistical reports, that, in those districts where emigrations have been most frequent, the inhabitants are more numerous now than they were before such emigrations. Those who resisted the infatuation of trusting their little fortunes and their hopes to the winds and waves, but were dispossessed of their small portions of ground, have been obliged to find employment in the manufactories of Glasgow and Paisley, in the Caledonian Canal and other works, by which they acquire habits of active industry, their minds become more expanded, they are better able

to maintain their families, and they have added more to the stock of wealth and industry elsewhere, than they have withdrawn from their native spot by their removal; those too who are permitted to rent small farms will become better farmers by their intercourse with the new takers, and more disposed to exert their energies in consequence of the imposition of adequate rents, the prudent raising of which has been productive of beneficial effects. Agricultural improvement must also necessarily follow the experimental farming which is practised by a number of Highland gentlemen, who, having by their talents made large fortunes abroad, return to the place which gave them birth, to spend in ease and happiness the produce of their spirit and enterprise.

Formerly the Highlander thought every occupation but that of fighting in the ranks of his clan, hunting, sometimes ploughing, at others reposing upon a sunny bank, cultivating his passion for music, or refreshing his memory with the songs of his Bards, derogatory to his dignity. The masculine employments of the farm devolved to the women, which, as it gave them a certain degree of independence and of consideration with the other sex, they were content to endure. However, upwards of twenty years have rolled away since the occupations of the farm were thus unsuitably divided, and a more sensible and natural

system has followed, by which the women of the Highlands are more confined to the discharge of those duties which peculiarly belong to their sex.

The Highland pasturage is better adapted for sheep than black cattle, because the latter can seldom collect above one-third of the herbage which sheep can; and it is well known that, for every pound of beef which a Highlander sends to market, a shepherd will send three pounds of mutton. The number of sheep fed upon these mountains is almost incredible; and as they can be pastured where the plough would be unavailing, the policy of no longer rearing them in fertile arable land, kept in grass in England, must be immediately felt, and speedily followed.

The Highlands have been considered as a nursery for soldiers, and it has been thought that the recruiting service will inevitably suffer by the changes which have taken place in their rural economy. But this, it appears, is far from being the case. At Glasgow and in other towns, and along the shores where fisheries are established, the same hardy loyal race will still be found. The population of the Highlands is dispersed, not diminished; and the Highlanders thus scattered are of more use to the community and to themselves than if they remained in the uninterrupted indulgence of their ancient habits. For this honourable advantage a mere

local name and character ought to be gladly exchanged. If, in certain parishes of Caithness, the recruiting-officer is not able to enrol as many in the service of the empire as before, he may supply the deficiency at Paisley, and its neighbourhood.

By the following official return, it appears that the recruiting service has not suffered by the rural changes which have taken place in the Highlands :—

Number of men raised in Scotland under the Army of Reserve Act, from its commencement in July 1803, till its repeal in June 1804,		5635
Under the Additional Force Act, from the commencement, 5th September, 1804, to 26th December, 1804	158	
To 27th December, 1805	881	
To the repeal of the Act, (June, 1806,)	622	
		1661
By the recruiting districts, in the ordinary way of recruiting.		
From the 3d May to 31st December, 1805	306	
From the 1st January to 31st December, 1806	887	
to 31st December, 1807	1326	
		2519

I was informed in the Highlands that that degrading and impolitic system of cotters and servitudes, something like the duty-work in Ireland, is daily decreasing, and day-labourers are every where multiplying. Notwithstanding the failure of a vast and highly patriotic manufactory for spinning and weaving cotton, which was established a few years since in the Firth of Dornoch, for the laudable purpose of endeavouring o ascertain how far the genius of the people and the nature

of the place were propitious to such an establishment, many persons well informed upon Highland matters are still disposed to think, that, in time, that country may become the seat of manufactures to a considerable extent. It has, by those who are unfavourable to this opinion, been thought that Highland manufacture must be confined to the preparing and spinning of wool for the clothing countries. On the other hand, it has been ascertained that the soil and climate are well adapted for the growing of flax, and several linen-manufactures are now in a tolerably flourishing condition in some of the Grampian districts; it is thought too that hemp might be raised, and rope-manufactures established, equal to the supplying the fisheries with all their cordage. It has also been properly inferred, that, if spinning were established, weaving, dying, and dressing the cloth, would soon follow. The turf in the Highlands is generally good, and, on account of the numerous arms of the sea which every where penetrate their shores, coal may be carried coastways, or conveyed into the interior by the roads which have been already formed and are now constructing. Wonderful discoveries have been within a few years made in the power and application of steam, by which the consumption of fuel in manufactories is so amazingly reduced, as to be now, in large manufacturing houses, of very little consideration. All these circumstances unite to make us hope that the day is

not far distant, when, instead of the Highlands being chiefly inhabited by the shepherd and his flocks, as some have predicted — whilst the sides of mountains are covered with cattle in the summer, and improved agriculture provides green food for them in the winter and the spring — the vallies shall contain enterprising agriculturists and successful manufacturers.

CHAP. XXV.

SAIL FROM OBAN—ITINERANT MERCHANTS—A MULL EQUIPAGE—STAMMERING PONIES—MERVIN—MULL ROADS—ARRIVAL AT ULVA—GATES—ULVA-HOUSE—A PIPER—ANECDOTE—MUSICAL BOATMEN—ISLAND OF STAFFA—BISHOP OF DERRY AND HERDSMAN—IONA.

AT Oban I engaged a large boat, with two men and sails, to carry me to Aros, in the Sound of Mull, a little voyage of about thirty-five miles, for a guinea and a half. As Oban is the great disembarking port for Mull, Staffa, and Icomkill, let me recommend the Hebridean tourist to carry with him changes of clothes, linen, and boots. I mention this, because it is generally thought that nothing is more easy than to accomplish the survey of these islands in two or three days, whereas it is frequently an undertaking, and a very arduous one, of ten days or a fortnight, if the wind and weather prove unfavourable, and they are rarely propitious.

I permitted two itinerant dealers in merchandise for the islands to go over with me. As it occurred in Scotland, I was not surprised to overhear them beguiling the voyage

by literary discussions, and by seeing one of them take out a pocket Virgil, which he appeared to relish very highly. The chapmen who thus visit these insulated and remote countries find ample return for their merchandise, and, in a national view, are of no little consequence in accelerating the progress of civilization. The Romans considered the travelling merchants, who frequented the barbarous countries which had submitted to their arms, as of considerable importance in gradually familiarizing those countries to the conveniences, and, in consequence, to the improved manners, of cultivated life. These erratic merchants are also, from their intercourse with the people of different districts, naturally well informed, and versed in the ways of the world, and consequently cannot fail of imparting some portion of their intellectual superiority, in the course of their dealings, to those who have not had similiar advantages of travel and expanded communication.

As we withdrew from Oban, and got fairly out to sea, the bay, the town, the ruins of Dunolly-castle, the mountains behind, the verdant island of Lismore, and other islands, and the shipping, formed a picturesque view altogether enchanting: the wind soon failed, and afterwards freshened against us; the evening was far advanced; and as the prospect of being all night at sea in an undecked boat, without provisions, was not very agreeable, it was deemed

most prudent to put into Achnacraig, in the south-east side of the island of Mull, and nearly opposite to Oban: here, in a small bay, were several ships riding at anchor, bound for the Baltic; and I could not help thinking what an immense tract of ocean they would save were the Caledonian Canal open to receive them.

About a mile up the island I was conducted to a very comfortable inn, kept by a very civil and respectable woman, who spoke Gaelic and good English; she informed me that the visit of the Duke of Argyle had diffused uncommon joy all over the island. I was fortunate in the following day, which was very fair; and I shall long reflect upon the delight which I felt in contemplating from an adjoining eminence the beautiful Archipelago of this western region, through which I had sailed the evening before. My hostess procured me two ponies, after a long search for them on the neighbouring hills, from which they descended as rough and as wild as if they had never seen the face of man before. The Mull ponies, however, are thought valuable. The date of my saddle would have puzzled an antiquary to have ascertained, and its hardness and asperity seemed to have increased with its age; however, I was fortunate in procuring this much-valued rarity, as I found that a large fresh *sod* is generally used as an ingenious substitute: the rest of my tackling was composed of frag-

ments of cord, hay, and leather. My guide, who spoke a little English, was a good-humoured peasant, and appeared to be considered as a man of distinguished genius by the group which had collected at the door of the inn to witness this grand set-out, on account of his having, after several ineffectual devices, succeeded in fixing my portmanteau on the beast destined to carry it, which he did by tying two great stones together at one end of the cord, which was fastened to my baggage at the other, the middle resting upon the pony's back, who had thus the pleasure of carrying a double burden. Having accomplished this difficult arrangement, he himself mounted, to "keep the balance true." Thus equipped, we set off for Aros, and to my cost I found that the good Mullites have about as correct a notion of distance as they have of making bits, bridles, and saddles. My hostess assured me that Aros was only nine miles off; and what induced me to conceive that she meant English miles was, that she accompanied it by another assurance, that I should reach it in two hours and a half; whereas the distance proved to be, at least, twenty English miles, and I did not reach it in less than six hours.

The appearance of the island for the first two or three miles was rendered picturesque and romantic by rocks, and groups of weeping birch, young oak, alder, and mountain ash, happily and not penuriously scattered along

the road, which is tolerably good all the way to Aros, so much so, that carts pass from Achnacraig to that place, and to Tobermoire; and once, for a wager, a carriage was transported from the main land, and run upon this road, which I think might have been accomplished without much difficulty. After passing a few corn-fields, and a neat farm, the grounds about which are well wooded, my guide's pony began to *stammer* under his burden, that is, in vulgar Scotch, to stumble, which threw all my baggage in disorder. It would have taken an hour to replace it, had not the accident fortunately happened opposite to a cottage, out of the window of which a handsome healthy girl was looking, who, seeing the accident, accommodated my La Fleur with a pair of creels, or panniers, in one of which the portmanteau was deposited, whilst a great part of his weight was sustained in the other. This hut, like almost every other which I saw on the island, was very wretched: it was built of round stones, or large pebbles, without cement, and the door was composed of rude wicker-work. The thatch was fern, and kept together by ropes of heath, at the ends of which stones were fastened, which hung down the sides of the cottage. Upon turning the eastern point, I bade adieu to every vestige of foliage; but, as some compensation, the Sound of Mull opened in great majesty, resembling a vast lake, enlivened with vessels; on the opposite side arose the gloomy hills of Morven; and upon a point of rock pro-

jecting into the Sound stood the remains of an ancient castle. I was now in the neighbourhood of the heroes of Ossian, the solemn, but simple, scenery of which, affor ed his melancholy imagination a sublime, but undiversified, imagery. In the authenticity of the poems of this Bard a strong belief has been expressed by some able writers on the subject.

The face of Morven must have been much changed since the time that Ossian wrote. In his poem of Carthon he thus describes it:—

> "How stately art thou, Son of the Sea! said the King of the *woody* Morven."

And again, in the same poem, a similar epithet occurs: "Bard of the *woody* Morven:" whereas its sides, all the way along the shores of the Sound of Mull, appeared to be completely denuded. Near Ardtorinish, on this side of Morven, are the original "Hall of Shells, and the woody streamy Vale of Selma."

The road continued nearly parallel with the Sound. After passing two or three miserable hamlets, the habitations of which resembled the description of the Balagans of Kamtschatka, I halted at the ruins of an ancient church, upon a commanding eminence, about fourteen miles from the inn. As I stood ruminating amongst the tombs, and

turning my eye occasionally from them to a hoary sightless islander, who sat upon one of them, and from him to the expanded scenery around, lighted up by a brilliant sun, Ossian's address to that great luminary, one of the most sublime passages in all his poems, forcibly recurred to my mind.

At last I approached the ruins of the Castle of Aros, standing upon a steep rock towards the sea, and said to have been erected by Macdonald, Lord of the Isles. Aros, in Erse, signifies the mansion or habitation, and is applicable to the residence, of any family of distinction. Mr. Maxwell, who is the Duke of Argyle's man of business in this island, has a comfortable house here, where I was afterwards hospitably entertained. Wishing to reach Ulva that night, I immediately proceeded to the inn, which, small and incommodious, was crowded with visitors to the isles. There I dismissed my Achnacraig guide and ponies, and, with difficulty, procured a little refreshment, a jaded half-starved horse, and a little boy for a conductor; with these I set off to cross the island of Mull for that of Ulva, again assured that it was only three miles off, although it proved to be between eight and nine.

I now bade adieu to every vestige of tolerable road, and entered upon a track, which only the horses of the country could traverse without a fracture. Occasional

bogs, shelving rocks, full of large deep holes, and vast stones, characterised its course; but these apparently perilous impediments, from the great experience and care of my beast in dragging one leg most cautiously after the other, proved only to be vexatious obstructions. A crowded churchyard could not have presented more hillocks than these roads, which are called *coarse ground.* The Duke of Argyle, when he visited these uncouth parts, promised to have a road constructed in this direction; when executed, future travellers, with cheerful gratitude, will unite the memory of his Grace to that of General Wade. Along the northern margin of Loch Makeall, I passed several little farms, on which there appeared to be very good barley and oats growing. Being a little near-sighted, I could not easily distinguish the houses from the earth. The island is twenty-five miles long, and about the same in breadth. A great number of black cattle are here annually reared and exported: There are two established markets for them, held at Whitsuntide and Michaelmas, each of which continues four days; besides which there is an annual horse-fair held on the 15th of August, to which many persons from Ireland repair to purchase Mull ponies. There are also a considerable number of large red deer.

It was "darkness visible" by the time I arrived at the end of my journey, and had sat myself down upon a

basaltic causeway, as far as I could judge by the glimmering of a few stars, opposite the ferry of Ulva, midst the sounds of distant waterfalls and the waves of the Atlantic Ocean, patiently waiting for the boat, and lost in astonishment with thinking by what marvellous protection I had reached the spot without the dislocation of my limbs. At last the boat arrived, and, after passing over about a quarter of a mile of sea, I reached the inn, a very humble one, and the only one on the island, standing close to its rocky shore, in which some jolly peasants were assembled to dance and drink whisky. My host, a Macdonald, told me I had been expected at Ulva-house, the mansion of the Laird, Ranald Macdonald, Esq., who, agreeably to Highland etiquette and distinction, is called Staffa, in consequence of that celebrated island belonging to him. However, as the night was advanced, I resolved to stay there till the morning; and as I was at supper, the merry peasants below, with the courteousness natural to their character, sent up to tell me, that, if their dancing disturbed me, they would dance no more; to which I could send no other answer, but to beg that, if it so pleased them, they would dance till the dawn of day.

The next morning afforded me a tolerable specimen of the Hebridean climate; it rained heavily, and the wind freshened to a gale. As I was informed that such weather is usual in

the islands nine months out of the twelve, and as fair days in these regions can only be expected in the early part of the summer, I made up my mind to a separation from the beams of the sun during my stay in the island, and in this comfortable expectation was not for one minute disappointed. At the same inn was an elegant and accomplished foreigner, the Baron ——, an officer in our service, whose philosophical ardour, after several ineffectual trials, at last enabled him to accomplish a visit to the island of Staffa, and to return to Oban, after a very unexpected absence of many days, and two or three miserable, and somewhat perilous, voyages in an open boat.

The Laird's house was about half a mile from the inn. The gates here, as in the island of Mull, are such as one might suppose had been constructed by Robinson Crusoe, or rather by his sable servant, Friday. The hinges are two curved sticks, let into a wall, supporting the gate, than which nothing can be more rude and uncouth; and locks and keys are also frequently constructed of wood. A blacksmith is a personage of no little consequence in those islands; although, in distant times, smelting and working of iron appear to have been well understood and exercised, not only in the islands, but all over the Highlands. Staffa's House is a comfortable and commodious mansion; indeed a splendid palace, compared with the wretched huts within

its neighbourhood. I here found a cordial welcome, and a family at once amiable and refined. The mind dwells with equal pleasure and surprise upon meeting, as I met with in this small remote island, cut off from the world, and just rearing its head amidst the war of winds and waves, a well-bred and accomplished gentleman, who, having visited the polished and luxurious scenes of southern Europe, is still sufficiently attached to these rugged rocks, and to his peasantry, almost antediluvian in mind and manners, to pass a considerable portion of the year with them. The many who have experienced the hospitalities of Staffa, in a spot where hospitality appears in all its value, and the pleasures of his society, will cordially unite with me in paying this little tribute of admiration to his character. At breakfast, and after dinner, Staffa, I suppose out of compliment to his tenantry, was attended by his piper. This surviving member of Highland feudality used to strut before the window with great solemnity, and in a dress extremely handsome. In allusion to the pace which is common to the fraternity, it is usual, in the Highlands, to compare the motion of any one who walks proudly to " the stately step of the piper." I was informed that one of these barbarous musicians, attempting, in a fit of enthusiasm, to pipe over eighteen miles of ground, blew his breath out of his body. It would have been well if he had been the last of the race. A piper in the Highlands, some few years since,

asked an English nobleman, who was conversing with him, what was the age of his piper; and upon learning from the Peer that he had no piper, he spoke of him afterwards with great contempt. In Staffa's House the table was plentiful and elegant; but the family, as they intended to pass the winter there, were a little anxious for the arrival of a vessel with a variety of necessaries and stores, none of which they could procure in the island. One of the young ladies of the family had the Christian name of Flora added to the surname of Macdonald, after the distinguished female of that name, who was so celebrated in the annals of the Pretender; and I was shewn, with that amiable respect which is ever paid to illustrious misfortune, a plate, from which Prince Charles used to eat when he was under the care of his generous protectress. For several days, during which fresh arrivals reached the hospitable roof of Ulva-house, on their way to the islands of Staffa and Iona, it never ceased to rain but for a few minutes, which, without displaying even a sickly sunbeam, just enabled me to ascertain, that, from the elevated parts of the island, Inchkenneth, and other neighbouring islands, the sea, the vast cliffs of Gribun, the towering mountain of Benmore, and the cascades that whiten the dark sides of the opposite cliffs, must, on a clear day, present a grand, but, after all, a gloomy prospect. The house has a tolerably-sized garden belonging to it, in which some vegetables

and little fruit grow; the walls are not high, and scarcely a tree can raise its head above them with impunity. Staffa has indulged in a romantic spirit of planting. In such a soil, and in so exposed a situation, the experiment is not likely to succeed, but it is worth trying. It will be a great and gratifying novelty to hear tourists, in distant times, speak of the *woody Ulva*. The extraordinary custom called mercheta mulierum is said to exist exclusively in this island. It is the right which the Laird has of violating the seventh commandment with his tenant's wife on her wedding-night. Staffa, very good-humouredly, and, I believe, very honestly, assured me he had never exercised his privilege since he had been in possession of the estate. His predecessor used to commute the right for a fat wether. This extraordinary privilege existed in many other parts of Scotland until abolished by Malcolm III.

We had now been waiting for several days, anxious for a little forbearance of the clouds to enable us to reach the islands of Staffa and Iona: at last the incessant *shower* lessened to a Scottish *mist*: Staffa ordered his barge to be manned; and thinking, according to the Scottish adage, "Bode a gown if gowd, and ye'll aye get the slieve of it," that is, "Try, and you will get something of what you try for," and that, if we could not reach the islands both of Staffa and Iona, we might reach one of them, we embarked with

the piper, who sat at the head of the boat, and played some merry and mournful tunes, but which I could not ascertain, as we committed ourselves to the ocean; when he ceased, the strokesman of our rowers commenced a spirited Gaelic song, the chorus of which ended with "Hatyin, foam! foam, Hatyin, foam! foam, foam, Hatyin, foam! foam, eri!" in which the principal singer introduced some peculiarly shrill notes, beating time very smartly with his hand upon the oar, and producing a brisk and agreeable effect; this had such influence upon his comrades, that, to borrow a marine expression, "we flew through the water," and with great velocity passed Inchkennoth, which I shall mention hereafter, the black basaltic rocks of Ulva, and the Cave of Mackinnow, which time and the weather would not admit of our reaching. After between three and four hours of hard and incessant rowing, we reached one of the great objects of our voyage, and landed on Staffa. The waves were too boisterous to admit of our entering the Cave of Fingal by water, which we reached after viewing the *Ship Cave*, so called from the basaltic columns being curved, and resembling the ribs of a ship. Having before seen the Giant's Causeway, where Nature has been working with the same, but with more slender and beautiful, materials, I saw nothing which was new till I suddenly reached the entrance of Fingal's Cave; the impression which it produced on me and others was such as only sublimity and

novelty could have effected. A spacious causeway leads to the hall, which is 227 feet long and 117 high; the columns increase in magnitude towards its entrance. Within were regular ranges of pillar, lessening towards the end, which is solid rock; above is a massy roof of rock, to which the tops of broken columns adhere, and below the sea rolled and roared, as it broke against and climbed up the rocky termination, with the noise of thunder.

Sir Joseph Banks has given a fine description of this cave. The name of this wonderful place is descriptive of its nature. Staffa is a word of Norwegian origin, meaning staff, or column. From the entrance of this sublime chamber, which, from the dusky hue of its pillars, seemed to be hung with mourning, we could distinctly see Iona. It is a curious circumstance that the tops of the columns in the roof are in a line with the stumps at the bottom, which line the sides of the cave; it is fair, therefore, to presume that each of these heads and bottoms belonged to one column, and that there were many columnar fragments under the water, deeply buried in sand. Close to Staffa, to the east, is the little island of Booshala, curiously composed of columns inclined in various directions. How much is it to be regretted that Dr. Johnson had it not in his power to visit these islands. Formerly a shepherd and his

family used to reside in the island of Staffa, to look after a few heads of cattle, which must have been a miserable banishment, for the island is not more than three quarters of a mile long and half a mile broad, and is a mass of basalt and lava. When the Bishop of Derry visited this island some years since, upon his entering the Cave of Fingal, he was so solemnly impressed with its sublimity, that he fell on his knees and prayed. He afterwards requested a Highland gentleman, who accompanied him, to ask, in Gaelic,

> "The shepherd of the Hebride Isles,
> Plac'd far amid the melancholy main,"

what he most wanted? to which the poor herdsman, with great simplicity and moderation, said, "A razor and some soap." The Bishop ordered him three razors, several pounds of soap, and gave him a purse of ten guineas, which made the poor fellow pity and despise the rest of the world, till his presents were worn out and expended. As a proof of the great mildness of the climate of these Hebridean Isles, the Laird of Staffa generally puts fifty head of cattle, in November of every year, on this island, where they have nothing but grass, and without any shepherd, and in May he finds them fat and fit for sale. Upon this island we were joined by a party of Oxonians, who proved to be very pleasant and enlightened men.

We had scarcely satisfied our curiosity in exploring this rude but sublime cathedral of nature before the weather began to thicken, and the wind to freshen in a direction that determined our hospitable host, to whom the navigation of these seas is familiar, not to venture upon extending our voyage to Iona, which we reluctantly gave up, although all the accounts we have of it concur in describing it as a spot better adapted for the mind than the eye, and abounding more with matter for meditation than with interesting objects. The sublime eulogy pronounced upon this island by Johnson was adverted to as we lay upon our oars, at first dubious as to our course, when we quitted the island of Staffa.

Two of our party had been at Iona a short time before with the Duke of Argyle, whose presence produced almost as great a sensation as if St. Columba, attended by St. Patrick and St. Bridget, had arisen from his tomb, to revisit this his favourite island. His Grace is the great chieftain of the place, and during a century it had never been so honoured. All the population crowded to the shore when the Duke and his party landed, to whom they offered some of the finest pebbles found on the island, many of which are very beautiful. The tombs of the Scottish and Irish Kings had been cleared of their superincumbent loads of cattle-dung, and duly washed and

scrubbed. The schoolmaster, the greatest personage upon the island, had "wasted the midnight oil" in preparing a speech with which to address the Duke; but, alas! like many an unpractised orator, when the long-looked for opportunity arrived, the powers of his memory melted away, and he stood in a state of pale and trembling stupefaction. The men and women, in fine white mob caps, and without shoes or stockings, danced an Iona fandango before the Duke, whilst the children pressed forward to touch his coat. Although Dr. Johnson has as much contributed to the immortality of the fame of Iona by his pen as St. Columba by his piety, the memory of the sage is not popular amongst the natives.

CHAP. XXVI.

A DELUVIAN DINNER—FISHERIES—KELP—KELP-TENANTS—REMARKS ON LETTING LANDS TO KELP-TENANTS—ON AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENTS—ON THE POPULATION OF THE HEBRIDES—ADVANTAGES OF PRIMOGENITURE—HEBRIDEAN VOLUNTEERS—FOOD AND HAPPINESS OF THE HEBRIDEANS—QUERNS AND CORN-MILLS—HEBRIDEAN PIETY—WOLVES—GAME—COAL.

WE dined, on our return to Ulva, in the boat, under such a deluge, that my plate overflowed with rain-water as I extended it for some refreshment. Our repast consisted of an excellent collation, and various and the best wines, of which we drank so bountifully, but not intemperately, that in a short time, from their influence, and the general good humour of the party, we began to think even kindly of the weather. Our poor boatmen and piper were plyed with what they loved next to life, copious quantities of whisky, animated by which, and their wild Gaelic songs, they pulled us back with Herculean vigour to the spot where we embarked, within an hour after a stormy darkness had settled upon the face of this part of the Atlantic.

It is to be lamented that the fisheries in the Hebrides,

and on the whole western and north-western coast of Scotland, and in particular the herring-fishery, so important to the state, should for many years past have been, in a manner, monopolized by the bounty, or bush, men, to the great prejudice of the interests of the native fisher. No encouragement of any kind or description whatever has hitherto been held out, either by Government or individuals, to any inhabitant of the western coast or islands to embark in the fisheries, with the exception of a slight bounty, called the *barrel* bounty, and to obtain which there are so many excise-forms necessary to go through, that the poor fisherman generally gives up the whole bounty to the officer of the custom-house when he comes to brand his barrels; by which means the returns of the fisherman's toil and enterprise are greatly reduced. The fisheries which were some time since established at Lochfine, by Lachlan Mac Lachlan, Esq. of Mac Lachlan, at Castle Lachlan, in Stath Lachlaw, as also those at Tobermorry, with laudable perseverance continue their operations; but without some alteration or mitigation of the penalties contained in many of the clauses in the Acts of Parliament relative to the salt-laws, it is not likely that these fisheries or any others can ever become a source of permanent national wealth. Indeed it would fill a tolerably-sized volume to enumerate the grievances which the fisheries sustain in consequence of the many involved, intricate, and unintelligible clauses in the

salt-laws now existing, and by which the fisheries are attempted to be regulated: I shall merely remark, that it is not by any means the *duties* of which the fishermen have to complain, but the rigid interpretation which the petty officers of excise (commonly called gaugers) think proper to put upon some of the clauses contained in these statutes, and the great rigour with which they carry them into execution; hence the more illiterate of the fishermen frequently suffer by such severity and their own ignorance. Notwithstanding these impediments, Staffa, to his honour, has bestowed unceasing zeal and ardour in encouraging his tenants in the islands of Staffa and Mull to embark in fisheries, and his exertions have been on several occasions attended with great success. Owing to the uncertainty of the visits of the herrings, and their equally uncertain duration, Staffa, by close observation and experience, has seen the sound policy of blending the occupations of farming and fishing, which do not interfere with each other, and which cause a certain supply of sustenance.

Whilst the fisheries in the Hebrides labour under such impolitic restraints, the natives find considerable employ and profit from the manufacture of kelp, which was introduced from Ireland between fifty and sixty years since, and has become a valuable source of income to the

proprietors. Kelp is the calcined ashes of a marine plant of that name, and is used in the manufacture of glass and soap: it grows on the rocks and shores of the Hebrides and Highlands. After it is cut, or collected, it is exposed to the sun and wind; and before its moisture is exhaled, it is placed in troughs, or hollows, dug in the ground, about six feet long and two or three broad: round its margin is laid a row of stones, on which the sea-weed is placed, and set on fire within; and, in consequence of continual supplies of this fuel, there is in the centre a perpetual flame, from which a liquid like melted metal drops into the hollow beneath, and when full, it is, in a state of fusion, raked about with long iron rakes. Great nicety is required to move the weed whilst it is burning, and to keep it free from dirt. When cool it consolidates into a heavy dark-coloured alkaline substance, which undergoes in the glass-houses a second vitrifaction, and assumes a perfect transparency.

The reasons why kelp manufactured, which it is done, but in very small quantities, along the eastern shores of Scotland, is not reckoned so valuable as that on the western coast, are two: first, that it is generally manufactured from cast or thrown-in sea-ware, or wrack; and, secondly, that the natives have not yet acquired the same knowledge of the modes of preparing it for burning, &c., as the kelp-

tenants on the west and north-west coasts, amongst whom, owing to the great quantity annually manufactured, it is pretty much reduced to a profession.

The average amount or expense of manufacturing one ton, or twenty-one hundred weight, of kelp, is from 2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 15*s.*, say 3*l.* 10*s.*, per ton, upon an average; and in most cases, through the whole Highland properties, the landlords usually *reserve* the kelp to themselves, and it is in very few instances indeed that kelp is now let with the farm to the tenant.

In general the proprietors of large kelp-estates contrive to have two classes or descriptions of tenants; the one consisting of well-informed judicious men, commonly called gentlemen tacksmen, who occupy large districts of ground, and pay a rent to their landlord according to the quantity, quality, and value of their respective farms; the other of the small, or, as they are called, operative tenants, who are generally employed with their families, during the summer, in manufacturing their landlord's kelp; during the harvest, partly in fishing, and partly in securing their crops; during the winter, in making compost middens for manuring his farms, building and repairing houses, march-dykes, head-dykes, and subdivision-dykes; and in spring, in putting the seed under ground.

It is different with the cod and ling fishers, who generally occupy smaller lots of land than their brother tenants: they commence the cod-fishery in February, and follow that up by the ling-fishery until the month of July, when they begin to prepare for the herring-fishery, and continue that occupation until November and December. Such is the management in the island of Ulva, where there are from thirty to fifty fishers; and it is believed that this system has now begun to be universally adopted all over the other islands on the west coast of Scotland. The manufacture of kelp possesses an advantage, which is considerable in so remote a part of the kingdom as the Hebrides, that of affording employment to children, as well as persons advanced in life.

The proper season for cutting kelp-ware, or wrack, and manufacturing it into kelp, is from the first week of May to the middle of August; and when properly and regularly cut, the wrack acquires its full growth in two years afterwards, when it may again be cut and manufactured into kelp; so that what is cut in the summer of 1808 will again be ready for undergoing the same process in the summer of 1810. It has been asserted, in some recent publications, that, upon the kelp-estates, the amount of rent paid by the small tenants was regulated by the price which the proprietors chose to give for manufacturing

the kelp; or, in other words, that it is all one to the poor kelper what sum he received as the price of his labour in manufacturing his landlord's kelp, as that was balanced off by a proportionable rise in the rent of his lands. This, I am assured by a gentleman of large landed property, and a considerable proprietor of kelp himself, is so far from being the case, that there is generally a strong competition every year for the kelp-shores. All over the Hebrides, rent is now paid in money, and not in kind.

The soil and climate of most parts of the islands and west coast of Scotland, and the shelter which they afford, are better adapted to grazing than cropping. There is no calculating the extent of cultivation into which these islands may be brought, from the almost primeval state in which they still continue. The average price of land in Mull and Ulva is still very low, compared with the price which is given for land in the neighbouring districts of Lorn, Knapdale, the Duke of Gordon's, and Mr. Cameron, of Lochiel's, property, &c. &c. Although there are several fields in Ulva, consisting of twelve to fifteen acres each, which are annually enclosed and carefully laid down in grass-seeds, and in good heart, for which 1*l.* 10*s.* and 2*l.* per acre have been frequently offered for the grass alone, still it was found by the proprietor to be more

beneficial and productive to keep it in his own hands, for pasturing black cattle.

I was informed, by a gentleman who had long resided in the Hebrides, and knew their local advantages well, that the population of the islands would be by no means too great if some of the large estates were put in a proper train of management, and the land distributed amongst the lower classes upon a different plan and principle from those now followed. Not that the number of tacksmen of capital and enterprise should be diminished, for the purpose of giving their farms exclusively to small tenants, for that indeed would be ruinous to a large estate, but that the extent of the moor and hill pastures of the larger tenements, which are possessed by the gentlemen tacksmen, should be increased, and part of the better, or arable, soil, divided among the small tenants, but in smaller quantities than formerly, and on such terms and for such a duration of lease as to induce them to improve their respective lots, and toll the land off by enclosures for hay, corn, and green crops and pasture. Upon this mode, he assured me, the economy and sound policy of Highland management principally turn.

The right of primogeniture exists all over Scotland

amongst the higher classes, and most generally amongst the lower orders also. Staffa thinks it good policy to encourage it amongst his tenantry, being of opinion that it is a valuable remnant of the feudal system. As an instance, he has upon his property at present some tenants, who are the fifth and sixth generations, in regular descent, upon the same piece of ground, and who would refuse exchanging it for twice its size upon English ground.

This local attachment is productive of the best effects, which will be abundantly displayed should the common enemy ever attempt to add Great Britain to the conquests he has already made. In these remote parts of the kingdom the spirit of patriotism burns as ardently as on the Continent of Great Britain. Even in the little island of Ulva there is a corps of seventy-one volunteers, including officers; and in the island of Mull there are two corps, each as large as that of Ulva. To the eternal honour of the Scottish volunteers be it mentioned, that before they were disbanded in April, 1802, two-thirds, if not three-fourths, of them, volunteered their services to any part of Great Britain.

Notwithstanding the occasional vexations which those who chiefly live by the fisheries endure in consequence of the salt-laws, the natives of Ulva, and, it is believed, of the

other islands, have an opportunity of living in great comfort and happiness. Their food consists of fish, of which they have upwards of twenty different species, within a few hundred yards of the shore, all around the island and along the coast; of mutton, lamb, and beef, of which they, of late years, consume a good deal; of geese, ducks, hens, chickens, &c. &c. Indeed, at certain seasons of the year, they consume a considerable quantity of poultry; eggs and milk they have in great abundance all the year round.

The worthy Laird of Ulva arranges all the lots of land upon his property in such a manner, that the holder of the smallest lot of land has his two cows, and from that number up to six, ten, and twelve cows. In consequence of this, many of them not only provide their families with butter and cheese, but have a surplus to dispose of. The bread generally made use of is from barley and oatmeal, of which they also make porridge, which forms their breakfast or supper, along with milk; and when there is any scarcity of that in the winter months, they take molasses with their porridge.

As every small tenant, or lotman, has a garden attached to his house, he in general plants a quantity of cabbages, and of late turnip, which, with potatoes, are the principal

vegetables; the latter are so much cultivated, and in such abundance, that they eat a great quantity of them with their fish, of which, as I have mentioned, they have great variety, close to the shore of most of their respective lots; and in general every tenant has a row-boat for himself and family, with which they fish, make kelp, &c. &c.

The natives of the Highlands and Hebrides still continue their dislike to eels, as an article of food, and which they never touch. Their prejudice against eating pork and bacon is now subsided, and in general that species of food is as much made use of as any other. Wheaten bread is not as yet used by the farmers in the Hebrides, though it is hoped it soon will be, and with that view the Laird of Ulva has sent a young man from Ulva, and apprenticed him to a respectable baker in Edinburgh, and as soon as his apprenticeship is out, which will be very soon, Staffa intends to build a house for him, and to encourage him to follow his profession on the island of Ulva.

The quern, a rude instrument for grinding corn, is, as I was well informed, now wholly discontinued as well in the Highlands as the Hebrides, though they are still to be seen in some of the old tenants' houses. In Ulva, and in all the Hebrides, there are water-mills, of the most modern and approved construction, for grinding corn; I mean

barley, beg, or bere, oats, rye, &c.; and in general there are two or three, and often more, of such mills, within the bounds of every parish in the Highlands and islands of Scotland. In the parish of Killninan there are no fewer than six corn-mills. Within a few years several shops have also been opened at Tobermorry and Oskamill, in the island of Mull; and at Sorrobay, Bernis, Ormaig, and the Sound of Ulva, within the island of Ulva; and I was informed that all over the Western Islands, or Hebrides, shops for retailing all kinds of merchant goods are now becoming pretty general.

The islands of Mull, Ulva, Gometra, and Iona, have only three clergymen between them. In consequence of the great extent and population of their respective charges, the many places at which they have to preach, the difficulties of travelling through the islands, and of passing from one to the other, these itinerant ministers are enabled to preach only every second and third Sunday at those places which have been established for the ordinances of Divine Worship. During the Sundays, however, where there are no preachings, the schoolmasters are regularly employed in these islands (at least it is so in Ulva) in visiting the tenantry, and assembling them in places previously fixed upon for that purpose, where they read and explain the Scriptures to the people, and regularly catechise the children, and appoint them

psalms and religious questions, to repeat and answer against their next meetings, which are most punctually attended. Besides these public exhortations in the forenoons, the natives, in general, pray in private. The clergymen of the above three parishes enjoy a stipend, including other casualties and advantages, varying from 150*l.* to 300*l.* a year each. I was also informed that their brethren in the neighbouring parishes on the west coast of Scotland are as well provided for. Upon inquiring in Ulva whether there was a church for the minister to officiate in, I was informed that there still remain the ruins of a church of considerable size in the island, in which it is generally believed the inhabitants not only of Ulva, but of the neighbouring farms, were in the habit of assembling to hear Divine Worship. That period, from the appearance of the ruins, must have been very remote. Round this church there is an extensive burying-ground, enclosed by a stone wall, which is now, and has been from time immemorial, made use of for that purpose. In this churchyard are a great number of loose stones placed upon the top of each grave, respecting which John Macquarrie, an old man of nearly ninety years of age, and whose ancestors, for many generations back, have inhabited this farm for several centuries past, relates that the reason why so many stones had been placed on these ancient graves was to prevent the dead bodies from being dug up by wolves, with which, even during his grandfather's time, the island of

Ulva abounded, having, even at that late period, some wood, chiefly oak, upon it; and that, such was the force of habit and prejudices, though, for upwards of sixty years, there have been neither wolves, foxes, nor venomous animals of any kind or description, seen in the island of Ulva, yet it is not more than thirty years since the custom of covering the graves with stones was discontinued.

The islands abound with foxes, rabbits, hares, and every variety of game, such as muir-fowl, or growse, heath-fowl, commonly called black cock, heath-hen, woodcock, snipe, and a very fine bird called the cock of the wood, or the *kapperkelly*. This bird has, from some unknown cause, been more scarce of late years than it was in former times. There is also the ptarmigan; and, of the ordinary birds, innumerable quantities of pigeons, plover of both kinds, the grey and the green plover, the curlew, mayfowl, pyet, red-shanks, together with a great variety of other species of land-birds. Of the sea-fowl there are five different kinds of wild geese, and eight or ten kinds of ducks, amongst which the shell-drake is celebrated for the rich beauty of its plumage. There are also, of the sea-gull, or sea-maw, five or six different species; solan geese, cormorants, scarts, marrots, and a great variety of smaller birds. Wild swans also visit the Hebrides every winter, from the northern regions.

Coal has been found in Sky, in Mull, and in some other of the islands, though as yet no fair trial has been made of the extent or value of the seams of such coal. Staffa has all his coal from the main land to Ulva-house by the vessels which sail with his kelp, and as there are annually made upon his property about two hundred tons of that article, he is seldom at a loss in getting coal, or any other fuel, for the consumption of the family of Ulva-house, brought home at an easy rate.

CHAP. XXVII.

INCHKENNETH—LISMORE—LOCH AWE DESCRIBED—THE SICK PAUPER—INVERARY-CASTLE—THE HERRING-FISHERY—THE CRINAN CANAL—LOCH LOMOND—LAKE OF MONTEITH—THE TROSSACHS—KILLIN—A HIGHLAND FUNERAL.

INDISPOSITION, arising from frequent exposure to rain, prevented me from joining the pleasant party I have before mentioned to the green isle of Inchkenneth, which lay very near Ulva, and looked like an emerald

"set in the silver sea."

In this island, the reader will remember, Dr. Johnson experienced much hospitality from Sir Allan Maclean and his daughters, which had the effect of putting him in perfect good humour, and he has accordingly written an elegant and captivating eulogy on the family and the place. He describes Sir Allan's establishment to have been one cottage for himself, and two more for the domestics. "We entered," says he, "and wanted little that palaces afford. Our room was neatly floored and well lighted, and our dinner, which was dressed in one of the other huts, was plentiful and delicate."—Upon the return of the party, one

of the gentlemen informed me that this island, which is also the property of Staffa, is about a mile long, and half a mile broad; that it is extremely fertile, and in a high state of cultivation; that it is inhabited by a few cattle and a shepherd; and that the tiny dwelling of the Baronet, in its best days, consisted only of three rooms, not one of which seemed capacious enough to have admitted Johnson to turn himself, without putting his head out of window.

We quitted the amiable family of Ulva-house with strong impressions of their kindness. Though their residence is so remote and difficult of access, during the summer months they are never without visitors, attracted by the islands, many of whom are distinguished for either rank, talent, or character. We landed again in Mull, at the head of Loch Nakeall. Only one horse, and that the leanest of his race, could be procured for our whole party. The horses in Mull are so accustomed to their native country, that they are never more in danger of falling than when on good level ground. After a miserable walk over a constant succession of streamlets, pools of water, and soft ground, that is, ground full of miry holes, we once more reached Aros, where we were hospitably entertained by Mr. Maxwell. The next day we set off in an open boat for Airds, near Appin, the seat of Sir John Campbell, a little voyage of upwards of thirty miles. We had a fine wind blowing fresh and fair nearly all the way; and, what

was of great consequence to us, the clouds retained their waters, and we had a very agreeable sail through the Sound of Mull, along the shores of Mull and Morven. Round the southern point of the latter we turned our course up Loch Linnhe, passing by the long, verdant, and beautiful island of Lismore, the name of which signifies a large garden; and after weathering the southern point of the Bay of Airds with some difficulty, we reached the mansion, which is most delightfully situated amidst woods, rocks, mountains, dales, and waters, and once more trod the main land, after having been deluged with rain and hospitality in the islands. Of the weather which I experienced in these isles I have not been able to give a favourable account; but it ought to be considered that I visited them late in the season for such a visit, and that many a grey-beard afterwards told me he had not for many years witnessed a summer and an autumn so chilly and rainy.

A party of us, who were going to Inverary-castle, quitted Sir John and Lady Campbell, and their beautiful residence, with regret, and set out for Dalmally, between which and Airds, about fifteen miles from the latter place, at Taynuilt we dined, after a most enchanting ride. The latter place is surrounded with graceful and sublime scenery, which would require a master's pencil to pourtray. There is a plain little rustic monument here, erected to the memory

of the illustrious Nelson, which has nothing about it worthy of notice, but that it has the precedence, in point of time, of any other of that description in the kingdom; an honour rendered very easy by the rudeness of its materials. Afterwards we followed the line of the river Awe, which is very long, black, deep, narrow, and rapid, flowing into Loch Etive. Our course lay through copses of weeping birch and hazel, along the foot of the stupendous and rugged Cruachan Ben, a mountain measuring three thousand two hundred and ninety feet above the level of the sea, and twenty miles in circumference at its base. This Alpine scenery, particularly as the evening advanced, was at once awful and tremendous; frequently the road extended along a frightful precipice, overhanging Loch Awe, which lay in many places a prodigious depth below us, and which we occasionally saw, through the openings of trees impending over it, reflecting star for star of the cloudless sky in its clear, but sable, mirror of waters; whilst huge shattered fragments of rock, arrested in their descent by projecting crags, impended awfully and frightfully, far above us, on the sides of this mighty mountain, deriving increased magnitude and horror from the shadows of the night, the solemn silence of which was only interrupted by the melancholy murmur of remote waterfalls.

The superstition of the neighbouring peasants still gives

currency to the tradition of the terrific Bera, to whom was committed "the charge of the *awful* spring," conceived to be the source of the lake, and who, from the summits of Cruachan Ben, could at will pour down floods upon the fields below. Our hostess at Taynuilt informed us that Dalmally was only eleven miles off, and the distance proved to be at least twenty. When we reached the inn it was late, and every bed was occupied.

The views about Dalmally are very romantic and beautiful, and well merited the eulogy which the illustrious Burke bestowed upon them. The inn, which was built by Lord Breadalbane, is, properly speaking, called Dalmally, and the village and parish Glenorchy.

Loch Awe is a noble lake, yielding only to Loch Lomond in picturesque beauty. When undisturbed, its waters are remarkably transparent, though their colour is very sable; and it is adorned by islands, rising above its placid surface, crowned with picturesque ruins, amongst which those of Kilchurn-castle most arrest the attention. This pile was the seat of the ancestors of the Duke of Argyle, and was built by the Lady of Sir Colin Campbell in 1440; and in 1745 was garrisoned by some of the King's forces, to preserve the tranquillity of this part of the country. It is built as most

houses were in distant times, exhibiting, in its form, strength, and situation, the melancholy truth of man's hostility to man. The island of Inishail, with its monastic ruins, is also very beautiful.

Happily for the poor of this district, which is but little adapted for the growth of grain, potatoes are very much cultivated. If any one would wish to experience the full value of this blessed vegetable, this inestimable *bread-fruit* of the country, let him go to the Highlands, where he will see thousands sustained by it, who, before its present extensive cultivation, used to languish through half the year in want and hunger. Considerable quantities of fish are caught in this lake. The ride along its shores was extremely beautiful and picturesque. At Cladich, the road turns abruptly off, in a south-western direction, into a country the very reverse of that which we had contemplated with so much delight. It was rugged, barren, hilly, and for many miles presented neither a bold nor an agreeable feature, until we entered the Duke of Argyle's plantations, when the whole scene as suddenly changed in our favour. Near the road we saw a cascade produced by the descent of the river Arey over some opposing rocks. In the road we met a sick old ghastly female pauper, unable to walk, carried on a litter by some young men and women, who were to convey her to a certain distance, at

the end of which she would receive further assistance, until she reached her parish, during which time she would be supported by voluntary subscription: this, I was informed, was a practice in the Highlands as common as it is humane. After passing through a vast and noble plantation of stately trees, we were glad to sit down to dinner at an admirable inn at Inverary, which fronted the park, a beautiful bridge which crosses the Arey, a bay of Loch Fyne, and many a mountain rising from its shores.

The castle, the residence of his Grace the Duke of Argyle, is a noble building, standing upon a lawn, and flanked with circular towers. I spent several days under this august and hospitable roof, during which it scarcely ceased to rain with great violence; but now and then a temporary cessation and sunbeam enabled me to observe the singular effect which the change of weather produced upon the face of the building, which was composed of a stone called the lapis ollaris, the colour of which varies with the state of the atmosphere: when it rains, every part upon which the moisture falls assumes a gloomy dusky hue; and, when it shines, it becomes almost white in the beams of the sun.

There is little in the interior of the castle worthy of notice, except the hall, which is a very lofty room, rising to

the top of the house. In two of the upper arcades of this hall are finely-executed statues of Perseus and Andromeda, and of Arria and Pœtus. In the park are some very fine limes and beeches. The Duke of Argyle is the chief of a vast portion of the Western Highlands, and is much beloved and respected. From his Grace, to whom I had a letter of introduction, I experienced the most flattering attentions. He is building a magnificent seat on the site of a former one destroyed by fire, on the western bank of Loch Gair, called Roseneath.

The population of the town of Inverary is estimated at about eleven hundred inhabitants. There is no manufacture carried on here. The herring-fishery is the only business in which its inhabitants are engaged, and that is confined to curing and selling the herrings caught in the neighbourhood by open boats, each of which is navigated by four men. The fishing season commences about Midsummer, and is seldom protracted beyond Christmas, and generally not so long. This fishery is very uncertain. Some years it is wonderfully abundant, and in others no herrings are to be seen. The number of boats used must therefore vary very much in different years. In some seasons, five hundred boats have been assembled in Loch Fyne. The Crinan Canal, between Loch Fyne and the Western Ocean, is completed; and it has been found of great advantage to the public, although the

proprietors have not derived any benefit from it. It was, at first, carried on by private individuals, and has been finished by the aid of Government. It is in contemplation to enlarge the reservoirs this summer; and perhaps a greaving-dock, and some other useful works, might be executed, if Government would afford some further assistance. The Duke of Argyle, the Earl of Breadalbane, and some others, have been the great promoters and supporters of this undertaking.

I quitted Inverary-castle and its festivities for Loch Lomond, the ride to which presents successive scenes of beauty, grandeur, and desolation. I slept at Arroquhar, a good inn in a most picturesque spot. The next day, the morning of which was *soft* (in other words, it rained as hard as it could pour), I reached the town of Luss, from which I procured a boat and four boatmen to carry me on the lake of Loch Lomond to Ross, the delightful residence of my much-esteemed friend, Hector M'Donald Buchannan, Esq. where I experienced much kindness and hospitality from him and his amiable lady. The little voyage on this great and magnificent lake, so finely described by Smollet in Humphry Clinker, and by many tourists, was uncommonly gratifying. The next day I contemplated from a height its vast extent of waters, nearly thirty miles long, its beautiful, richly-wooded, and numerous islands,

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[illegible] this grand and magnificent lake, so truly described by Southey in Roderick, Chaker and many tourists, was unfortunately [illegible]. The next day I contemplated from a height its [illegible] extent of waters, nearly thirty miles long, its beautifully wooded and numerous Islands,

and the stupendous mountain of Benlomond, to the summit of which, from the water's edge, is about six miles of continued ascent. A more beautiful and sublime spectacle cannot be contemplated. During my visit at the Ross I rode to Dumbarton, from which the views are very fine and commanding. In the vicinity are many picturesque scenes, enriched by the windings of the Leven and the Clyde. From the Ross I proceeded to Gartmore, the elegant seat of Cunninghame Graham, Esq. under whose hospitable roof I passed several days, which, from the attentions of him and his lovely lady, and the beauty of the place, will long be remembered with pleasure. In my way to Gartmore I passed through the beautiful grounds of the Duke of Montrose, in which there is much fine timber. At Gartmore there are a few excellent pictures, by Rubens, Claude Lorraine, Berghem, Jean Stein, Salvator, and Gerard Dow. Mr. Graham has also several valuable curiosities in his library. The lakes of Monteith, in the neighbourhood of Gartmore, are highly worthy of attention; they are small, but very interesting. One of the islands, about half a mile in circumference, is a little paradise; it contains the ruins of a monastery, some noble trees, and two or three luxuriant gardens, all of which do great honour to the taste of the holy fraternity who made it their residence in distant days.

I left these scenes for others of a very different description. I allude to the Trossachs, a region of savage and naked rocks, which appear to have been hurled together in some angry and frantic mood of Nature. It was a scene of sublime desolation. The great mountains which form the principal features in this chaos are Benledi, or the Mountain of God; Benivenow, or the High Hill, which is encrusted with sharp rocks; and Benmore, or the Great Hill, whose summits are covered with eternal snows. The Duke and Duchess of Bedford had just been visiting this part of Scotland. During their excursions, her Grace, with that true passion for her native country, which, with so many other excellent qualities, distinguishes her character, suffered no object worthy of their notice to pass unvisited, although she was frequently exposed to "the weeping winds" in places where no carriage can ever roll. As the Duke is well known to be a great patron of agriculture, the peasants, with a little laudable vanity, considered the object of his tour was to ascertain the cause of their corn being so much stronger and more productive than that grown in England. In my route to Loch Katherine, or Ketterine, I crossed the Grampians. This lake has much beauty to recommend it. I slept at Callendar, which is a very pretty town, in a romantic situation; the houses owe much of their neatness to a stone and slate quarry being in the neighbourhood.

From Calendar [illegible]

[illegible] bearing a

From Callendar I proceeded to Loch Earn, which does not possess many picturesque charms, at least for my eye. The first view I had of Killin, after leaving Loch Earn, was singularly grand; this place is in a situation romantic beyond description. It stands at the base of surrounding mountains, whose dusky sides are occasionally enlivened by the white stripes of water descending from their summits, whilst a mountain torrent rolling over a bed of rock below, and rushing by a group of firs, nearly divides one half of the town from the other. The town is very poor; and has scarcely any trade or manufactures. As there is no coal in that part of the country, the inhabitants are obliged to use turf. The inn at Killin is very comfortable, and the innkeeper remarkably moderate in his charges. I had a letter to the Laird of M'Nab, who has a house and a large family burial-place near the town, walled off, and covered with aged firs. This Laird lives, I was informed, in the style of the ancient chieftains, and is the only one who does so in Scotland. He was from home when I called.

I had just mounted my horse to quit this enchanting and romantic spot, when the bell of the church, which stood close to the inn, began to toll, and immediately afterwards a concourse of men appeared, moving with hasty steps to the church-yard, which induced me to follow them: in the middle of the throng I observed four men bearing a

coffin to the grave, into which, with great decorum, but without ceremony, the poor remains of mortality were lowered: at that moment every one took off his blue bonnet, and three of the group advanced to the verge of the grave, where they remained until it was filled up, in attitudes of manly and unaffected sorrow: a long roll of green turf was then brought upon a pole, unravelled, and neatly placed over the mound. So rapid was the interment, that, in about ten minutes, only here and there a little scattered fresh mould distinguished this from the neighbouring tombs. The funeral bell struck but a few strokes; no minister attended, no prayer was said, no anthem sung. The deceased was the daughter of an opulent farmer; and one of those who attended said that the Highlands could not boast of a lassie more good or more bonny, and that she fell in the bloom of youth: yet no female mourner was there. Such were the features of this solemn scene, and such, I presume, the usage of this part of the Highlands. Accustomed to see the dead interred with more showy sorrow, at first, I must confess, I thought these Caledonian mountaineers were destitute of that sensibility which the memory of the departed inspires in every other country, amongst the most savage as well as the most refined; but a minute's reflection rescued them from this impression by placing their religion before me, simple and unadorned as it is in all its offices, and by the marks of genuine, though

silent, sorrow which appeared in every countenance; and I also recollected to have met, in my way to Killin, at some miles distant, several of the figures which stood before me, who had assembled from remote villages to mingle in the funeral procession. One of the group, after observing me for some time, advanced to me, and courteously asked me if I came from London? I answered him in the affirmative.—"That is the place, I believe," said he, "where the King tarries."—I told him it was.—"Ah!" replied he, "then you must be surprised to see the manner in which we have placed this corpse in the ground, for I have heard you bury your dead there with more ceremony, but yet you do not feel more than we." I fully agreed with the honest Highlander, who, after a few more words, bowed and withdrew.

I shall long remember this scene, with which the very elements were in unison. At a distance were heard the murmurs of waterfalls; from a deep romantic glen a broad meandering stream, as it flowed to the Loch, watered one side of the church-yard; the leaves of many a stately beech and elm rustled in the precursive blast of an approaching snow-storm, which, as it passed away, left the brown summits of the vast surrounding mountains white; whilst the expressive faces, athletic limbs, and Tartan dress of the Highlanders before me, and the solemn cause of their assembling, presented a grand and affecting picture at once to the eye and to the mind.

CHAP. XXVIII.

LINES TO THE CALEDONIAN HARP—LOCH TAY—HOUSE OF TAYMOUTH — MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS — DUKE OF ATHOL'S PARK — DUNKELD — ATHOL BROZE—ANECDOTE—A WEE BIT OVER THE BRAE—DOUNE—THE LORD'S ANOINTED—GLASGOW — ARGYLE-STREET — TONTINE COFFEE-HOUSE — TOLBOOTH — INFIRMARY— CATHEDRAL— COLLEGE—ANDERSONIAN INSTITUTION — NELSON'S MONUMENT—STEAM—THEATRE—CIRCUIT COURT— REMARKS ON COTTON-MILLS — CLYDE AND WATERFALLS—RUGBY SCHOOL.

AS I rode along, thinking of M'Nab and his piper, the following lines occurred to my mind, which I afterwards retouched at Killin :—

LINES

ON THE CALEDONIAN HARP.

In days that long have glided by,
Beneath keen Scotia's weeping sky,
On many a hill of purple heath,
In many a gloomy glen beneath,
The wandering lyrist once was known
To pour his harp's entrancing tone.
Then, when the castle's rocky form
Rose mid the dark surrounding storm,
The harper had a sacred seat,
Whence he might breathe his wild notes sweet.

Oh! then, when many a twinkling star
Shone in the azure vault afar,
And mute was ev'ry mountain bird,
Soft music from the harp was heard;
And when the morning's blushes shed
On hill, on tow'r, their varying red,
Oh! then the harp was heard to cheer
With earliest sound th' enraptur'd ear.
There many a lady fair was known,
With snowy hand, to wake its tone;
And infant fingers press'd the string,
And back recoil'd to hear it sing.
Sweet instrument! such was thy pow'r—
'Twas thine to gladden ev'ry hour;
The young and old then honour'd thee,
And smil'd to hear thy melody.
Alas! as Time has turn'd to dust
Th' embattled tower, the beauteous bust,
Thou too hast mark'd his frowning brow—
No Highland echo knows thee now:
A savage has usurp'd thy place,
Once fill'd by thee with ev'ry grace—
Th' inflated pipe, with swinish drone,
Calls forth applauses once thine own!

The pen and the pencil would fail in giving any adequate idea of Loch Tay—a superb expanse of water, fifteen miles long, and from one to two broad. Neat farms and country residences everywhere enliven the eye. The road winds through plantations of young beech and oak, beneath the arches of whose branches the lake is seen in a thousand points of varying beauty; a prodigal luxuriance diffuses itself over the fields which line its verdant margin, and

high up the sides of the majestic mountains, which, whitened by many a waterfall, are reflected in its mirror; whilst a small island, thickly covered with trees, and supporting the ruins of a priory, the picturesque church-tower, bridge, and village of Kenmore, embellish its beautiful termination. In this island the remains of the Queen of Alexander the First of Scotland are said to be interred. The inn at Kenmore wanted only a bellows to render it very convenient; the servant told me there were none in the house, as she puffed my fire with her own healthy lungs. The lake abounds with salmon, pike, perch, eels, char, and trout. Lord Breadalbane has vast property in this part of Scotland, and an immense extent of pleasure-ground. About two miles from Kenmore, towards Killin, I visited the hermitage belonging to his Lordship, through the rustic window of which is seen a beautiful waterfall, two hundred and seventy feet in extent of visible descent. His Lordship is building a new house upon the site of the ancient house of Taymouth: that which is erecting appeared to be designed almost precisely from Inverary-castle, and also to be built with the lapis ollaris: the wings of the ancient mansion were standing. Hills thickly covered with stately trees rise before and behind it. As I advanced in my way to Dunkeld, upon leaving Taymouth-castle, I passed by a small druidical temple, and near Aberfeldie saw the Fall of Moness, which I think one of the finest

I ever beheld. The road to Dunkeld, occasionally extended along the banks of the Tay, was a continuation of beautiful and picturesque objects.

. . . . .

The evening was far advanced when I reached the ferry below Dunkeld. The scenery was very beautiful and picturesque, and the Tay runs with a deep and rapid current, after winding from a south-western to a north-eastern direction by a noble meander above. Arrived on the other side, I passed under a brick archway, which connects one part of the Duke of Athol's grounds with another; and after a ride through a noble avenue of elms and other stately trees, and another arch, and by the remains of the cathedral, occupying a large space towards the north-east end of the street, I reached the inn, which was so crowded, that it was solely owing to the courtesy of two gentlemen who were visiting the Highlands that I could obtain admission to a room. I did not then know that there was an excellent inn, affording every comfort and accommodation, on the other side, within two or three hundred yards of the ferry, but out of the road which I came.

In the morning I visited the cathedral, which is a noble Gothic pile, and throws over the town the interesting appearance of antiquity. The choir still remains, and is used for worship. The chancel is now the burial-ground; and

the whole building, standing between the grounds of the Duke of Athol and the town, forms a continuation of the Duke's park-wall. Upon one of the tombstones I read, "Here lie Roy Macdonald, and Eliza Fleming, his wife." Amongst the lower people, the wife continues her maiden name; and if a widow, and several times married, she may, if she likes it, select the name of the husband she liked best.

Dunkeld was long a Bishop's see; and amongst those who did honour, by their piety and learning, to the Catholic religion, during its establishment in Scotland, the tourist with peculiar pleasure, recurs to the well-known history of Gavin Douglas, once Bishop of this see. This illustrious Prelate was one of the ancestors of Lord Glenbervie. He was of a noble family, and was born in 1474: he excelled in theology and poetry.

The ruins of this cathedral form a picturesque object to the Duke's house, which is very plain, and badly situated. I was informed that it is in contemplation to remove it for one upon a magnificent scale. The park and grounds, which are very extensive, are richly adorned with trees of stately and graceful growth, by hill and dale, and lofty craggy rocks, majestically rising, thinly shaded with young firs. Along the river, and sometimes diverging from it, the most

delightful walks are cut through woods, shrubberies, and corn-fields. A violent storm of rain prevented me from contemplating Ossian's Hall, a building which stands close to a noble cataract.

His Grace of Athol is perhaps the most princely hunter in the kingdom; whenever he chases the roebuck, an immense number of peasants and gamekeepers are put in requisition; the latter equipped with telescopes, to discover and drive the deer towards him. These animals are very numerous at Athol, where the Duke has another seat, and where he was during my stay at Dunkeld: they are extremely shy, and give their destroyers, as a just retaliation, great trouble in shooting them; and in the accomplishment of this a dexterity is necessary, in which the Duke, I am informed, is without a rival. The venison of the wild deer is much admired; it runs to a great size, is fat, and very delicious. The Duke is hereditary Ranger of the King's Forest of Athol, by which he obtains a prodigious tract of country for the pursuit of his favourite amusement.

Dunkeld, or "the Hill of Hazles," has been most justly celebrated by the poet, and formed the subject of the painter. It was considered to be in the centre of Old Caledonia, and is now esteemed to be in the heart of the Highlands. Verbal description can impart but a faint

impression of the romantic and exquisite scenery which here everywhere banquets the eye. Upon the hill descending to Dunkeld, the traveller, if he has a relish for the charms of Nature, would be amply rewarded for the toil and labour of a long pilgrimage. Below, the Tay is seen meandering along banks feathered with wood to the water's edge; advancing, it is broken into foam as it dashes over a rough bed of large stones, and passes under the ample arches of a new and noble bridge: the town, and the venerable cathedral, eminently picturesque, just rise above the river upon lawns or fields that slope to the water, whilst the whole is surrounded with the vast woods of the Duke, with rocks rising in awful grandeur, with grounds that are luxuriantly clothed with trees or verdure, and with craggy summits that bid eternal defiance to the planter's hand. The traveller may remain here many days, and discover fresh beauties in every new ramble.

Great praise is due to the Duke of Athol for the taste which he has displayed in aiding and directing the prodigal bounty of Nature in this favoured spot, and the liberal and humane attention which he pays to his surrounding tenantry, and to the comfort and prosperity of the inhabitants of the town. The principal sources of opulence to the town are the tanning of leather, which is carried on to a considerable extent, and the manufacture of linen, which is

the staple commodity. The bridge, when completed, which it was expected would be next year, will be very handsome, and extremely convenient to that part of the country. I was informed that 60,000*l.* had been advanced by the Duke of Athol and Government, in equal moieties, and that 10,000*l.* more was to be raised by tolls, towards the erection of this structure.

The district of Athol is famous for a hunting cordial, called Athol Broze, which is made of whisky, eggs, and honey, and is in high estimation. When Mr. Sheridan was in this country, some time since, he had occasion to ride a few miles to the house of a friend to dine, over a country which was almost impassable to carriages, on account of the dreadful state of the roads. It is well known that that celebrated character, although possessed of great personal intrepidity on other occasions, is very nervous when he has to encounter any of the difficulties or perils of Nature's creation. In going, the orator was observed to express great terror whenever he descended a hill on his shelty, although he moved with the greatest caution and solemnity; but, upon his return, he bounded like a Nimrod over ruts and chasms, acclivities and descents. Upon being congratulated on his fearless exertion by a friend, the wit replied, "My good fellow, I have taken a due proportion of Athol broze, and Athol broze

is the best leveller of mountains and repairer of roads I ever met with."

Opposite to the back window of my inn, a barren spot of ground was pointed out to me, as the site of part of the celebrated Birnam Wood, but which would not now be capable of supplying Macduff's soldiers with a bough apiece. This waste spot disfigures the view, every other part of the scenery about Dunkeld being richly wooded. The famous Sylva Caledonia once extended from this town to Ross-shire, the only remains of which are to be seen near the water of Maeshy, on the banks of Loch Laggan. The Duke has repeatedly offered the owner of this classical space of barrenness to plant it gratuitously, an offer which I was informed the owner had, most singularly and unaccountably, as often declined. The Duke has carried the patriotic and profitable system of planting to a great height, particularly larches. It is a curious circumstance that the two first larches ever seen in Great Britain were brought to Dunkeld *in pots*, and deposited in a green-house, as precious exotics. The natural soil of the larch-tree is the Alps and Appenines, and the soil of the Highlands is considered congenial to its growth. This wood was selected by the painters, from the time of Pliny to that of Raphael, to paint upon: by the Roman naturalist it is called immortale lignum.

I was credibly informed that in the blight of this tree is the same insect which preys upon the eye, and produces the ophthalmia in Egypt.

Upon quitting Dunkeld I set off for Crieff, to which I rode through a very interesting country, and which formed the frequent subject of Ossian's lyre. I was on horseback: the darkness of the night closed upon me: I lost my way; and, in recovering it, had to encounter, as I frequently had done before, that terrific part of a Scottish peasant's itinerary information called "*a wee bit over the brae.*" Oh! traveller, when, after a long and fatiguing ride or walk, bewildered you ask your way to the place you wish to reach, and the answer is, "about three miles, and a wee bit over the brae," you will generally find this wee bit bear as great a proportion to the rest of the journey as the long tail of a comet does to the comet itself. Crieff is a neat and prosperous town, containing about 2,000 inhabitants; it stands on the southern slope of a hill equally distant between Perth and Stirling, lying on the military road, which branches off in various directions. Three miles from Crieff is Drummond-castle, the seat of the Honourable Miss Drummond, the only surviving child of the late Lord Perth, which stands in a most commanding situation, upon the precipice of a high rock, the approach to which, as well as the rest of the ground, is very beautiful. At Ardoch I saw the traces of a Roman en-

campment, which has been often mentioned by tourists. At Dumblane I was much gratified by contemplating the ancient cathedral, the only object worthy of notice. From thence I proceeded to Doune, a neat town, beautifully situated near the river Teath, well known for its manufacture of Highland pistols, its skilful slaters, and much more for the ruins of its castle, a large square building, formerly the residence of the Earls of Monteith, now the property of the Earl of Murray. Upon my return I once more visited the Lake of Monteith and the agreeable family of Gartmore, highly gratified with Perthshire, which, as far as I am able to make the comparison, surpasses in richness and variety of scenery every county in England.

I found the road to Glasgow for many miles very uninteresting, if I can say so with impunity when the reader is informed that my road lay by Killearn, in Stirlingshire, the place which gave birth to the illustrious George Buchanan, and which is embellished with an obelisk raised to his memory, 100 feet high. The genius, learning, and singular history of this great man, have been often recorded. Perhaps the following anecdote of his firmness as well as humour may not be so well known. Having been, at the especial instance of Queen Mary, appointed tutor to her son, James the First of England, he one day ordered his Majesty, who was at play with a fellow-pupil, not to make

so much noise; and, upon his making an impertinent answer, Buchanan put down his breeches, and gave him a hearty flogging. The Countess of Marr, who was in the next apartment, hearing the King cry out, ran into the room, caught him up in her arms, and in a rage demanded of his tutor how he dare to lay his hand upon the Lord's anointed; upon which Buchanan calmly said, "Madam, I have whipped his bottom, and you may kiss it if you please."

Within about three miles of Glasgow I saw the great Aqueduct Bridge, 275 feet long, which stretches over the beautiful valley and river of Kelvin, over which the canal connecting the Forth and the Clyde is carried. It consists of four stately arches, 37 feet high and 50 wide. This is a noble and spirited undertaking. Glasgow is a superb city, and perhaps without a rival in those extraordinary productions of human ingenuity, which scientific knowledge and liberal enterprise have furnished to Commerce. The tourist will find much to attract and detain him in this her chosen seat, and much did I regret that urgent family business rendered my stay so short. However, from the polite attentions of some distinguished and enlightened persons of that city, I was enabled to see much in a short space of time. Amongst the many fine streets which Glasgow may boast of, it may challenge any city to exhibit one more spacious,

noble, and picturesque, than the main street, which runs through the whole city, and at different parts has acquired the names of Argyle-street, Trongate, and Gallowgate. It would be sufficient to observe that the illustrious Burke declared it to be the finest in picturesque effect he had ever witnessed. I have passed many hours in viewing it at different times, under the effect of a faint mist, or setting sun, or moonlight, and at every view discovered fresh beauties in it. In this street is the celebrated Tontine Coffee-room, which is seventy-two feet long and proportionably wide, the roof of which, near the principal entrance, is supported by columns of the Doric order. The whole has a very splendid effect, and I believe is not equalled by any building of the kind in any part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, or by the Cassinos in different parts of Europe. Here all the English, Scottish, and Continental newspapers, and various periodical publications, are taken in. This room is supported by a subscription. I wish I could say as much of its gloomy neighbour, the tolbooth, or prison, a building in every way unworthy of such a city. The cells are narrow, and there is no court-yard; and so insecure is the room allotted to those unhappy persons who are condemned to die, that they are closely chained to a massy iron bar, fastened lengthways in the centre of the room. However, there was an appearance of cleanliness and of humanity in this prison, bad as its con-

struction is, very creditable to those who are entrusted with its government. Some time since, I was informed, the magistrates laid out 7,000*l.* in repairing it, at a time when they might have had 5,000*l.* for selling it. With a little addition to these united sums they might have erected a gaol which would have done honour to the city. The bridewell is but badly constructed for a correctional house; I believe it was built for barracks. When I visited it there were about one hundred women in it. In each apartment that I saw there were two women. Their occupation was embroidery, sewing, &c., according to their habit of life. As it is a place of temporary confinement only, few suffer for want of that exercise which is compatible with security and necessary to health. I was much gratified by seeing the Royal Infirmary, a beautiful modern building, designed by Mr. Adams, and built about fifteen years since. The wards are spacious, and well ventilated; the beds have no curtains, and the bedsteads are of iron; the operation-room is lighted by a noble glass dome, which gives without an elegant finish to the building. From a gallery which runs round the room there is a fine view of the city and surrounding country. The patients have the benefit of very skilful medical attention, and the whole does great honour to Glasgow. Near to the infirmary is the cathedral, a huge pile of Gothic architecture, of great antiquity, having been consecrated in the year 1136. The effect of its interior is

quite destroyed, as it is divided into no less than three distinct churches. I was glad to see an organ in one of them, and as sorry to find that it is not suffered to be played during Divine Service. However, by being accustomed to see it its rigid adversaries may at last have no objection to hear it. There are many handsome churches in this city, which it would be tedious to mention, in one of which an organ had been raised and opened to assist in Divine Service, but was speedily condemned to silence in the manner I have mentioned in the former part of my Tour.

I was indebted to Dr. Cuming, Professor of Oriental Languages, for much polite attention in viewing the university, the celebrity of which such names as Adam Smith, Reid, Anderson, and Miller, amongst its professors, have not a little augmented. The exterior of the building possesses very little of architectural ornament. Within, the public rooms which I saw were very heavy and sombre; and the whole seemed to be marked by an undignified gloom, not a little increased by the association of its modern and elegant neighbour, the Hunterian Museum, which has been lately built by Mr. Starke, for the reception of Dr. Hunter's valuable collection. Only a few of the pictures which form a part of this academical treasure were unpacked and exposed to view when I was at Glasgow. Behind this building is the college-garden, containing avenues of stately

trees, for the students, who, with very few exceptions, reside in the city. The public students wear a scarlet gown. The number of public and private students is about nine hundred, most of whom are natives of Scotland. The plan of education of this university is said to be more subject to system and control than that pursued in the College of Edinburgh. In his attendance upon the lectures and studies, much is left to the discretion of the student. All the professors, except the Professor of Divinity, are supported by the funds of the college and the fees of the pupil, but the remunerations of the latter form too large a part of their incomes not to render exertion necessary, and to place interest on the side of duty. The divinity chair, as if its study had but few attractions, and that to subject its professor to voluntary contribution would be probably dangerous to his respectable support, is wholly placed out of the reach of caprice, ignorance, and irreligion, by having a larger salary attached to it, wholly paid out of the funds of the university. The chairs of this university are occupied by men of distinguished learning and ability, as will appear by the following Senatus Academicus:—

DUKE OF MONTROSE, Lord Chancellor.
Henry Glassford, Esq. Rector.
Dr. Duncan Macfarlane, Dean of Fac.—Patron, the University.
William Taylor, D.D. Principal.—Patron, the Crown.

Robert Finlay,	Divinity.	The University.
Hugh Macleod, Wm. M'Turk,	Church History.	Crown.
Patrick Cuming,	Oriental Languages.	University.
Wm. Meikleham,	Natural Philosophy.	Ditto.
James Miller,	Mathematics.	Ditto.
James Mylne,	Moral Philosophy.	Ditto.
G. Jardine,	Logic.	Ditto.
John Young,	Greek.	Ditto.
W. Richardson,	Humanity.	Ditto.
Rob. Davidson,	Civil Law.	Crown.
Robert Freer,	Medicine.	Ditto.
James Jeffray,	Anatomy and Botany.	Ditto.
James Cowper,	Practical Astronomy.	Ditto.
Rich. Miller,	Lect. Materia Medica.	

Connected with the subject of intellectual importance, I cannot pass over without notice the high reputation which Dr. Andrew Ure, Professor of Natural Philosophy and Chymistry to the Andersonian Institution, has obtained. As the materials by which mercantile exchange is effected are the frequent fruits of physical science, Dr. Anderson has conferred a lasting obligation upon Glasgow by bequeathing the means for forming this valuable establishment, which the learning, talents, and address of the present Professor, have rendered a source of important and agreeable information to the rich citizen as well as the indefatigable mechanic. Glasgow

can boast of having been the first city which has raised a monument to the immortal Nelson. It is a plain obelisk, 140 feet high, built of freestone, which, in the part exposed to the weather, has been well oiled. An inscription is intended to be placed upon the base. In a party where I was, several very long and elegant inscriptions for it were proposed. Upon being asked for one, I took the liberty of suggesting, that on one side of the base should be recorded, in large projecting characters in bronze, "Glasgow to Nelson," and on another side the day and year of his death. Few will read an elaborate inscription, and every valuable particular of his extraordinary and momentous life is about to appear from the able pen of my learned and excellent friend, the Rev. J. S. Clarke. There is a dignity in brevity, which I felt on reading the inscription upon the celebrated Monument of Peter the Great at Petersburgh, and which suggested what I proposed.

The view of Glasgow from the public walk on the banks of the Clyde, near the Humane-Society House, where this monument is raised, is very fine. The view taken is from Carlton-place, an elegant line of houses, including the Old Bridge and Nelson's Monument. The New Bridge is very handsome: there is another behind the Old Bridge, very properly, from its materials, called the

Timber Bridge, for foot passengers, which is light and convenient. Glasgow used to be subject to terrible inundations; it is now less so than formerly. To describe the different manufactures in and near to this city would fill a volume. The wonderful powers of steam are, I believe, more known and exercised at Glasgow than in any other manufacturing town. The steam-engine has been well described to be "the most valuable present which the arts of life have ever received from the philosopher." That philosopher was the Marquis of Worcester, who, during the reign of Charles II., wrote a small book, entitled, *A Century of Inventions*, in which, amongst other curious projects, the nature of the steam-engine is clearly pointed out. The knowledge of the laws of steam, wonderful as its operations already are, is considered to be but in its infancy. One of the most ingenious pieces of machinery which I saw is Mr. John Duncan's tambouring machine, which he has very recently brought to perfection, by which several needles (one which I saw contains sixty) are put in motion, and perform all the operations of tambouring by steam. This machine will perform as much as sixty women can, and will of course effect a very great reduction in the selling price of the article. The whole of the house in which these machines are is warmed by steam, at a very trifling expense. In mechanics, as applied to manufactures, Mr. J. Duncan

has deservedly obtained very high celebrity. I saw also the process of weaving carried on by steam. It was curious enough to see the shuttle impelled backwards and forwards by mere vapour. I should scarcely have been more surprised to have seen a game at shuttlecock performed by similar agency. Simpson's muslin-manufactory is well worthy of notice, as are Thompson's machines for winding thread. At the houses where the singeing machines for burning off the superfluous threads of muslin are used, the traveller may see muslin of fine texture rolled rather slowly over a long and very thick bar of iron, red hot, with such care as not to take fire: formerly the price of singeing one piece, containing ten or twelve yards, was one shilling; it is now one penny. The singer indemnifies against burning. Cotton is the grand staple manufacture of Glasgow, which is carried on to an immense extent. I saw a very large building, intended for a cotton-manufactory, which will be warmed by steam, lighted by gas, and completely fire-proof. I had great pleasure in visiting the extensive calico-works of Richard Gillespie, Esq. In one of the apartments was an hydraulic engine, worked by compressed water, the powers of which were astonishing. Here again steam was the reigning agent: it set a washing and rinsing machine in motion; it printed and dried the calicoes, and warmed the different houses belonging to the manufactory. South-Wood Side, the beautiful grounds of

Mr. Gillespie, but a short distance from the city, are also well worthy of a visit from the tourist. He will too be much gratified, as I was, with the glass-houses of —— Geddies, Esq., who also carries on a considerable manufacture of white and red lead. Glasgow has set a noble example to Edinburgh in the building which has been recently raised for dramatic representation. The exterior of the new theatre is very ornamental to the city. Within, however, it has the fault of being too lofty, which is injurious to hearing. The drama in Glasgow, as at Edinburgh, has had to struggle with bigotry; and even now, I was informed, the Glasgow theatre is seldom well attended. On the nights which I visited it, the whole of the audience might have been placed, without being crowded, in three of the boxes. The management of this theatre is in a committee of subscribers. Glasgow has many other public buildings which highly embellish the city, many of which are devoted to public amusements, conducted upon an extensive and liberal scale. There are also a grammar-school, and places for public instruction; but the children are said to be less enlightened here than in most of the other towns of Scotland, owing to the cotton-mills and other manufactories, in which children at an early age can be employed.

The Circuit Court, answering to our assizes, was holden at Glasgow a short time before I left it. I was much

struck with the ceremony which preceded and followed the arrival of the two judges, whose duty it was to attend on this solemn occasion. A considerable military force, with drums beating and colours flying, went forth to meet the judges, attended them back into the city as a guard of honour, and the commanding officer waited upon them to receive from them the countersign. It was a spectacle dear to the lovers of civil liberty, and an impressive homage paid to the dignity of justice. The next day the judges walked from their hotel to the court, through a line of the military, attended by the sheriffs, and many persons of great respectability. In the court I heard an elegant address from Lord Armadale, one of the Lords of Session, to the jury and sheriffs. The only causes, as I was informed, of any interest, had been withdrawn, so that I heard none tried. The jury, I learnt, give their verdict always in writing, which requires such legal nicety in the framing that care is always taken to have a man of business in their body. Upon these circuits, when a criminal is condemned to die, forty days always elapse between the sentence and execution. The trying judge, I suppose, in consequence, has no power of granting a respite, as he has in England. The judges did me the honour of inviting me to their table at the hotel, where I met the principal persons of the city, friends of the noble magistrates. For this table a liberal allowance is made

All the proceedings upon this occasion were calculated to inspire awe and reverence amongst the people.

It would not have been an easy matter to have left this part of Scotland without seeing the Falls of the Clyde. In my way I visited the immense cotton-mills of Henry Monteith, Esq., of Monkland, in which not less than nine hundred persons are employed. It is a little town, finely situated on the banks of the Clyde. This gentleman has about one hundred and thirty apprentices, who appeared to enjoy as much comfort as the occupation in which they were engaged would admit. These children are instructed, at short intervals, after the hours of labour, in reading and writing, and on Sundays are neatly dressed. I am sorry to add that conduct so humane and benevolent is rarely to be met with in such a depot of premature vice, in such a scene of early disease and pollution, as a cotton-manufactory.

Near these mills are the beautiful ruins of Bothwell-castle; and opposite to it, on the other side of the river, the Priory of Blantyre, so much admired, and so often described. At Hamilton, which is a considerable but dirty town, I visited the palace of that name, a large, dreary, and half-deserted pile, the well-known residence of the Dukes of Hamilton. In the shew-rooms are several exquisite paintings, from the pencils of Titian, Vandyke, Poussin, &c. That

of Daniel in the Lion's Den, by Rubens, is the most admired. It is a noble picture, but I think it wants a little more shade. The vast room which contains this celebrated painting is very gloomy, and furnished in the very worst taste. The park and grounds are extensive and fine, and the surrounding country very beautiful. At Smaland, the country-residence of Lord Armadale, I had the pleasure of again experiencing the politeness and hospitality of his Lordship. The cotton-mills at Lanark are upon an immense scale, in which about two thousand persons are employed, who reside in a regular-built town adjoining. The transfer of children to this and other cotton-mills from England, is, to the honour of the country, less than it used to be. The Orphan-house, I am informed, has refused to send any more. The state of those unhappy children can be duly felt only by being seen. Their tender lungs are exposed to the fine particles of the cotton wool, which are continually floating in the air of the rooms, except during their meals; they are employed from six in the morning until eight at night; and after that hour, when they are exhausted and desirous of rest, an affectation of humane attention is displayed by many of their masters, in having them instructed till ten in reading and writing: during their working hours they are associated with the most abandoned and profligate. The cataracts in this neighbourhood have been long celebrated; that of Stonebyers,

within about two miles of Lanark, consisting of three descents, rolling in mighty masses over shelving rocks, of a dark brown colour, contrasting with the rich and luxuriant foliage of the rising woods on either side, is very fine. Several artists have made it the subject of their study. I have seen a faithful and beautiful view of it by that able artist, William Daniell, Esq. A. Corra Linn is very different; it is higher, but not so broad. Its form is more graceful, and so is the scenery through which it rolls. It looks like a cataract of milk. The Falls of Bonniton, above it, the walk to which is exquisite, are much less considerable, and as I had seen the other two first, they made no great impression upon my mind. The country immediately in the neighbourhood of these falls is quite a paradise, and is too well known not to render further description tedious.

Upon quitting Scotland I stopped for a few days at Rugby, in Warwickshire, to revisit the scenes in which the years of my boyhood had been passed. My reader has, no doubt, tasted of this tranquil, I had almost said melancholy, gratification. Like me he has perhaps quitted the hurly-burly of life, to trace his name on some favourite tree, pleased to fancy that respect for his character had left it unobliterated, to hear the sound of the old school-bell, to cap verses upon the well-known bench, to spread a veil of oblivion over the darker days of existence, to wrap himself

up in the past, and endeavour to be again the thoughtless happy schoolboy. I was much gratified to find that this distinguished seminary is rapidly recovering its former celebrity, under the firm and able management of its present learned and amiable head master, Dr. Wooll. With this gentleman I had the pleasure of revisiting Bilton, about two miles distant, the retired seat of Addison, and felt a secret gratification in observing that the pictures and furniture within, and the grounds without, appeared to have experienced no change but what they owed to unsparing Time.

I have now brought to a close my endeavours to delineate the people and the country, which form the principal subject of this volume. I may be charged with rash presumption for having attempted a subject so near home; but I have the pleasure of reflecting that I have spared no pains to be correct; and, where I have erred, I shall be happy to have my errors pointed out. In taking leave of my reader, I have only to regret that my powers of execution have not been more answerable to my design.

FINIS.

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